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VOLUME XI. EBENSBURG, PA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1877. NUMBER 47.

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One who I recommended it to has benefit
and by its use.—Rev. C. D. Humphreys, Ra
Ohio.

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IF YOU WANT TO
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THAN GOING TO A CIRCUS,
the Evening Lamp, during the coming
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will make the blues stone dead, and fill your
with happy, healthful mirth.
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each in advance, which is a reduction of
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respectively.

RMS AT PRIVATE SALE.—
The undersigned offers at private sale
following properties, to wit: A tract of land
Logan township, Blair county, 1½ miles from
Station, containing 188 acres, well improved,
thereon all the necessary farm buildings,
will be divided into two or three parts,
purchasers, and if not sold before the
1st of March next, it will then be rented.
The farm on which I now reside, in Logan
about 3½ miles from Altoona. This property
a good state of cultivation and has a splendid
orchard and other buildings thereon erected.
also a tract of improved land situated partly
Blair and Cambria counties, containing 278
This tract is underlaid with coal of excel-
quality, well covered with timber, and has a
dwelling house, ready for shipping coal.
The above lands will be sold as a whole or divided,
suit purchasers, or will exchange
for city property. For further informa-
apply or address WM. DECKER.
Dec. 28, 1877.-4y. Box 809, Altoona.

OTEL PROPERTY AND FARM
FOR SALE.—The undersigned offers
for sale on liberal terms the well known
Mansion House, two doors west of the Pa. R. R.
in the borough of Gallitzin. This property
is elevated and well designed as a hotel and
boarding house, and any one wishing to secure a
good stand will find it here.
Will be sold on terms equally satisfactory
to purchaser, a FARM of 112 Acres,
cleared and with a comfortable HOUSE
and barn thereon erected.
For terms of sale and other particulars call
on or address MARGARET WHELAN,
Nov. 30, 1877. Gallitzin, Pa.

RETTO PROPERTY AT PRI-
VATE SALE.—The undersigned offers
at a low price and on easy terms TWO
LOTS OF GROUND, well improved, in Loretto
borough, on which is erected a comfortable and
two-story DWELLING HOUSE, 18x30 feet,
with kitchen attached, as well as a sub-
stantial and other necessary OUTBUILD-
INGS. There are also on the premises, which are
situate in St. Mary's street, the principal thor-
oughfare of the town, a thriving orchard of choice
fruit, an abundance of excellent water. For
further information call on or address FRANCIS
FLEY, attorney in fact for
PATRICK MEALLY.
Nov. 16, 1877.-3m.

UCH NOT!—All persons are
hereby cautioned against interfering in
any way with the following described property,
levied on by me at Sheriff's sale and left with Si-
mon Gerrer, of Chest township, during my plea-
sure, viz: all his hogs, a lot of wheat, rye, corn
in the ear, grain, bran, and flour. Also, one
bay horse, one clock, bought by me at pri-
vate sale and left with the same party.
CHARLES ANNA.
Carrolltown, Dec. 7, 1877.-3t.

RAY BULL.—Strayed from the
premises of the owner in Susquehanna
township, on or about the 15th of May last, a red
and white bull, one year old in April, with white under the
belly, a white ring round the tail near the end,
and a few other white spots on body or face, or
any information leading to his recovery
will be thankfully received and suitably reward-
ed. JOSEPH FARABAUGH.
Dec. 7, 1877.-3t.

ANTED—12 GOOD HOOP SHA-
VERS, to whom employment can be
given 3 months. Will pay cash and guar-
antee employment. Apply at once to DIEHL & CO.,
Altoona, Pa., or at Duncansville, Blair
county, by letter or in person.
Dec. 7, 1877.-3t.

EXANDER TAIT, M. D., PHY-
SICIAN and SURGEON, St. Augustine, Cam-
bria co., Pa. Night calls should be made at
the office. [8-17,'77.-tf.]

A CHRISTMAS HYMN.

Welcome to Thee, heav'nly Stranger,
Gladsome shall Thy advent be;
Tho' Thy birth-place was a manger,
Nature saw her God in Thee:
Whilst Thy lowly home was wanting
All that earthly joys could bring,
Seraphs hymns of joy were chanting,
Unto Thee, earth's new-born King.

In Thy stable birth-place lowly,
Angels waited Thy behest;
Whilst Thy mother, maiden holy,
Clasp'd Thee to her spotless breast;
Shepherds who their flocks were tending
In Bethlehem's lonely plains by night;
Saw the heav'nly host descending,
Filled with wond'ring, strange delight;

They their flocks left unprotected,
Wand'ring o'er the plains afar,
Through devious ways to Thee directed,
By Thy radiant natal star.
Wise men, too, with presents laden,
Jewels rare and perfumes sweet,
From lands afar rich robes array'd in,
Came to worship at Thy feet.

And in adoration kneeling
On Thy happy natal day,
We like them to Thee appealing:—
"Turn not Thy sweet face away;
God and God-like, condescending,
As the day that saw Thy birth,
Mercy, (with Thy justice blending),
Show unto us, sons of earth!"

Lighten Thou the load of sorrow,
Ease of pain the piercing smart;
Let us hope and comfort borrow
From the love that fills Thy Heart,
Men's fierce passions all assuaging,
O'er the earth let discord cease;
The "better part" let man engage in,
Guided by the hand of peace.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

On Christmas eve the bells were rung;
The damsel donned her kirtle sheen;
Forth to the wood did merry men go
To gather in the mistletoe.
The heir with roses in his shoes
That night might village partner chuse;
All hailed with uncontrolled delight
And general voice the happy night
That to the cottage, as the crown,
Brought tidings of salvation down.
The huge hall-table's oaken face,
Scrubbed till it shone, the day to grace,
Bore then upon its massive board
No mark to part the squire and lord.
Then the grim boar's head frowned on high,
Crowned with bays and rosemary.
The wassail round, in golden bowls,
Garnished with ribbons, blithely trowls;
Then the huge sirloin reeked; hard by
Plumb-porridge stood, and Christmas pye;
Nor failed of Scotland to produce
At such high tide her savory goose.
England was merry England, when
Old Christmas brought his sports again.
'Twas Christmas broached the mightiest ale,
'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale;
A Christmas gambol oft would cheer
The poor man's heart through half the year.

The practice of using green branches for the decoration of churches and houses at Christmas time is of very remote date. In early carols the holly and ivy are both spoken of, but the former more frequently than the latter; ivy, however, became one of the plants regularly used with holm and bay, to which goodly company the mistletoe was afterward added. Rosemary and laurel were also among the favorite Christmas evergreens, and chaplets of them were made and worn on the head—whence came the expressions, "To kiss under the rose," and "Whispering under the mistletoe."

The yule-log is of very ancient use. Before chimneys were invented, the fire was built in the middle of the room, the smoke escaping through the roof. On Christmas eve, a huge log, the yule-log, was put upon the fire and each member of the family in turn sat down upon it, and sang a yule-song, and drank to a merry Christmas and happy new year. The sitting on the log had to be abolished when fireplaces were invented, and in these days the log itself has fallen into disuse by reason of the modern improvements of Latrobe stoves, furnaces, etc. Herrick, in his *Ceremonies for Christmasse*, mentions the yule log:

Come, bring me with a noise,
My merrie, merrie boyes,
The Christmas log to the firing:
While my good dame, she
Bids ye all be free,
And drink to your hearts' desiring.
With the last yeere's brand
Light the new block, and
For good success in his spending,
On your yule-tide play,
That sweet luck may
Come while the log is teending.

One of the earliest customs was the wassail-bowl, and one universally patronized. The first wassail is said to have been as follows: Rowena, the daughter of Hengist, presented the British king Vortigern with a bowl of wine, saluting him with, "Lord king, wæs-heil," to which the king (as previously instructed, the legend says) replied, "Drinc heile," and saluted her after the then fashion. Being much smitten by her charms, the king married the fair cup-bearer, to her and her father's great satisfaction, and the Saxons obtained what they wanted. This form of salutation is found, however, to be much older than this romantic scene, and to have been used by the Saxons years before. Some accounts say that the Britons had their wassail bowl as late as the third century. The followers and worshippers of Odin and Thor drank deeply in honor of their gods, and when converted continued the practice in honor of the one God and his saints, and it required much patient labor among the early missionaries to abolish it.

Dancing was a favorite Christmas amusement. William of Malmesbury tells us quaintly of a party of young folk who were dancing in the churchyard, one Christmas eve, and by their laughter and songs disturbed a priest who was saying his Mass in the church. He begged and entreated them in vain to desist and allow him to complete his duties undisturbed; they only danced the more and sang the louder, until, the priest's patience becoming exhausted, he prayed that they might never cease dancing. This prayer was heard, and they continued their dance all through the year. Neither heat nor cold, hunger, thirst, nor fatigue, affected them. Their friends made every effort to stop them. A brother of one of the girls took her by the arm, and tried by force to bring her away; the limb came off in his hand, without apparently causing any pain or distress to the dancer, who lost not a single step of the performance, and went on as steadily as before. At the end of the year, Bishop Hubert came to the place, and, absolving the party, the dancing ceased. Some of them died right away; others, after a sleep of three days and nights, went round telling of the miracle.

From the earliest times, the kings of England celebrated Christmas and the succeeding holidays with royal feastings. In the time of Henry II., they had dishes with queer sounding names, whatever their actual merit may have been. Crane was *the* bird of the season, just as turkey is with us; but besides that they had dillegrout, karumpie, and maupigyrum. These names convey to modern ears very little idea of what was the real nature of each compound. Dillegrout must have been something very remarkable, for the tenant of the manor of Addington, in Surrey, held it by the service of making a mess of the delicacy on the day of the coronation.—With what anxiety must not the ingredients, which were almold-milk, the brawn of capons, sugar and spices, chickens parboiled and chopped fine, been put together! A little too much of one, too little of another, an instant's too long cooking perhaps, and the goodly manor was bestowed upon a greater artist or more lucky individual. Maupigyrum was the same dish with the addition of fat. Of the Christmas drinks were hippocras, ale, mead, and clanu. The English in early days were celebrated for their pre-eminence in drinking. Iago says, in reference to this characterisitic: "Your Dane, your German, and your swag-bellied Hollander are nothing to your English." The Saxons drank wine, mead, cyder, ale, pigment, and morat, to which the Normans added clane, garhiofilac, and hippocras. Of course, these drinks were aside from the wassail-bowl, which still held its own.

Morat was made from honey and mulberries; claret, pigment, hippocras, and garhiofilac (from the *girofle*, or cloves contained in it) were different preparations of wine mixed with honey and spices. Henry III. ordered his wine keepers to deliver to the sheriff of York white and red wine to make garhiofilac and claret for the next Christmas; and in the twenty-sixth year of his reign directed the sheriff of Gloucester to cause twenty salmons to be bought and put into pies for Christmas, and the sheriff of Sussex to buy ten brawns with the heads of ten peacocks, and other provisions. Imagine the Lord High Sheriff of either of the above counties receiving such an order now-a days from Queen Victoria! To the crane, as the Christmas dish, succeeded, about this time, the boar's head, and it was always brought in with great ceremony, preceded by musicians and an usher, and welcomed with shouts and hurrahs.

Under Edward III., Christmas was held in great style; there were revellings, maskings, and dancings, the masks one year taking the form of birds, dragons, etc., and the next of elephants and other frolicsome beasts. During the reign of Richard II. in 1398, two hundred tons of wine were drunk and two thousand oxen eaten on this feast, to say nothing of other dishes. These were royal Christmases indeed. This king also had his pageants or maskings; but, instead of birds or animals, there is on one occasion in the wardrobe accounts a charge for twenty-one linen coifs for "counterfeiting men of the law" in the king's play at Christmas, 1389. Richard was murdered on Twelfth day, 1400, and so ended all his earthly Christmases. During the wars of Henry V. in France, he always ceased hostilities on Christmas day, and during the siege of Rouen offered food to those of his hungry enemies who would accept it from him. At the seige of Orleans in 1428, a like truce was proclaimed, and the English and French exchanged gifts. When Henry VII. ended the wars of the Roses Christmas was celebrated in a most magnificent manner. In 1493, on Twelfth-night, there was great banqueting and wassail. The king made the usual offerings of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and in the evening wore his crown and royal robes; kirtle surcoat, furred hood, and mantle with long train, and his sword borne before him; his armills of gold set with rich stones, and his sceptre in his right hand. The wassail was introduced in the evening with great ceremony, the steward, treasurer, and comptroller of the household going out for it with their staves of office; the king's and the queen's servers having fair towels round their necks and dishes in their hands, such as the king and queen should eat of; the king's and queen's carvers followed in like manner. Then came in ushers of the chamber, with the pile of cups—the king's the queen's, and the bishop's—with the butlers and wine to the cupboard, or sideboard as it would now be called, and squires of the body to bear them. The gentlemen of the chapel stood at one end of the hall, and, when the steward came in with the wassail, he was to cry out three times, "Wassail, wassail, wassail!" to which they answered with a good song—no doubt a wassail-song or a carol, as they were prevalent at that time. Henry VIII., in the early part of his reign, did not neglect the Christmas merry-making; plays, masks, pageants, and similar diversions were frequent and splendid, for Henry was young, gay, and light-hearted in those days. In his third year at Greenwich, there was a pageant arranged before the queen in which he himself took part; but after he grew corpulent, encumbered with his wives and interested in the established religion, these merry-makings fell off and gradually ceased altogether at court.

At this period, the Christmas festivities of the Inns of Court had become celebrated and afterward far surpassed those of the court in fancy, if not in splendor: nor is this surprising, considering the talents that must always exist in these communities, some fresh from the universities imbued with classic lore, others fraught with the knowledge acquired in many years, with wit sharpened by constant intercourse with wits as keen as their own; and perhaps few are better able to appreciate true wit and humor than those who turn to it from deep and wearing mental labor. There was a rule which required the attendance of all who lived in the Inns at these merrymakings, under the penalty of being disbarred, a threat actually held out in the time of James I., at Lincoln's Inn, because the offenders did not dance on Christmas day, according to the ancient order of the society, and some were indeed put out of Commons by decimation. Imagine a lawyer coming into court to attend a trial of importance stopped at the door and forbidden to enter because he did not dance with his opponent's counsel on Christmas eve! Dugdale gives a programme of the performances at one time:

"First, the solemn revells (after dinner and the play ended) are begun by the whole house; judges, serjeants-at-law, benches, the utter and inner bar, and they led by the master of the revells; one of the gentlemen of the utter barr is chosen to sing a song to the judges, serjeants, or masters of the bench, which is usually performed; and in default thereof there may be a amerciament. Then the judges and benchers take their places and sit down at the upper end of the hall, Which done, the utter barristers and inner barristers perform a second solemn revell before them. Which ended, the utter barristers take their places and sit down. Some of the gentlemen of the inner barr do present the house with dancing, which is called the post revells, and continue their dances till the judges or bench think meet to rise and depart."

Lincoln's Inn celebrated Christmas as early as the time of Henry VII.; but the Temple and Gray's Inn afterward disputed the palm with it, and indeed on some occasions seem to have surpassed the other Inns of Court. The first particular account of any regulations for conducting one of these grand Christmases is in the ninth of Henry VIII., when, besides the king for Christmas day, the marshal and master of the revels, it is ordered:

"That the king of the cockneys on Christmas day should sit and have due service, and that he and all his officers should use honest manner and good order, without any waste or destruction making in wines, brawn, chely, or other vitails, and also that he and his marshall, butler, and constable-marshall should have their lawful and honest commandments by delivery of all the officers of Christmas; and that the said king of the cockneys nor none of his officers meddle in the buttery, nor in the steward of Christmas, his office, upon pain of forty shillings for every such meddling. . . . That Jack Straw and all his adherents should be theuceforth utterly banisht, and no more to be used in this house upon pain of forfeit, for every time £5 to be levied on every fellow happening to offend against this rule."

Who this Jack Straw was, or what his offences were, does not appear.

In order to divert the mind of the young king, Edward VI., from the grief he felt at the condemnation of the Duke of Somerset, the most magnificent revellings on record were prepared. George Ferrers, of Lincoln's Inn, a gentleman of rank, was appointed lord of misrule, or master of the king's pastime, and acquitted himself so well as to afford great delight to many and some to the king, but "not in proportion to his heaviness." He seems to have been well adapted to his responsible office, being not only a man of rank, but a person of decision and determination to carry the thing through in the proper spirit and display. He required of the master of the revels, Sir Thomas Cowarden, that John Smyth should be allowed him as his clown; besides jugglers, tumblers, fools, etc. A new fool's coat with a hood was made for John Smyth, who, from his being mentioned by name, must have been a well-known court fool. The dress of this clown will show that no expense was spared even about the officers of this grand lord of misrule. He had a long fool's coat, of yellow cloth-of-gold, fringed with white, red, and green velvet, containing 7½ yds., at £2 per yd., garded with plain yellow cloth-of-gold, 4 yds., at 33s. 4d., with a hood and pair of buskins of the same figured gold, containing 2½ yds., at £5; and a girdle of yellow sarcenet, of ½ yd., at 16d. The whole value £26 14s. 8d., a goodly sum for the dress of a jester. The dresses of the lord of misrule himself must be mentioned to give some notion of the style in which this celebrated revelling was carried on. On Christmas day and during that week, he wore a robe of white bandekin (a rich stuff, made of silk interwoven with gold thread), containing 9 yds., at 16s. a yd., garded with embroidered cloth-of-gold, wrought in knots, 14 yds., at 11s. 4d. a yd.; having a fur of red feathers with a cape of camlet thrum. A coat of flat silver, fine works, 5 yds., at 50s., with an embroidered gard of leaves of gold and silk, containing 15 yds., at 20s. A cap of maintenance, of red feathers and camlet thrum, very rich, with a plume of feathers. A pair of hose; the breeches made of a yard of embroidered cloth-of-gold, 9 yds. of garding, at 13s. 4d., lined with silver sarcenet, one ell, at 8s. A pair of buskins of white bandekin, 1 yd., at 16s., besides making and other charges, 8s. more. A pair of pantacles, of Bruges satin, 3s. 4d.; a girdle of yellow sarcenet, containing ½ yd., at 16s. He had different but equally magnificent suits for New Year's and Twelfth-day. These dresses were supplied from the king's stores, and must have satisfied any one. Taking, too, in account that he was attended by the members of his court, and all handsomely dressed, it was enough to turn any moderate man's head. His suite was composed of his heir-apparent, John Smyth, counsellors, pages of honor, gentlemen ushers, a sergeant-at-arms, private marshal, under-marshal, lieutenant of ordnance, heralds, and trumpeters, an orator, interpreter, jailer, footman, messenger, *an Irishman, an Irishwoman*, six hunters, jugglers, etc. The lord of misrule chosen in the fourth year of Elizabeth's reign was Mr. Henry Helmes, and his title was as follows: "The High and Mighty Prince, Henry, Prince of Purpoole, Archduke of Stapulia and Bernardia, Duke of High and Nether Holborn, Marquis of St. Giles and Tottenham, Count Palatine of Bloomsbury and Clerkenwell, Great Lord of the Cantons of Islington, Kentish Town, Paddington and Knightsbridge, Knight of the most heroical order of the Helmet and Souvereign of the same."

The revels of these grand Christmases continued throughout the whole twelve days; Christmas day, New Year's day, and Twelfth-day being more particularly distinguished. On Twelfth-day, the lord of misrule, with one hundred followers, made his progress through London in the morning, and arrived at the temple in time for breakfast, at which were served brawn, mustard, and malmsey. The dinner, of two courses, was served in the hall, and after the first course came the master of the game, dressed in green velvet, and the ranger of the forests, in green satin, bearing a green bow with arrows, each of them having a hunting-horn about his neck; after blowing three blasts of venery, they paced three times round the fire, which was then placed in the middle of the hall. The master of the game next made three courtesies and knelt down, and petitioned to be admitted into the services of the lord of the feast. This ceremony having been performed, a huntsman came into the hall with a fox and a purse-net with a cat, both bound at the end of a staff, and nine or ten couples of hounds, the horns blowing. The fox and cat were then set upon by the hounds and killed. This charming sport being finished, the marshall ushered all in their proper places to the dinner, and, after the second course, the oldest of the masters of the revels sang a song, with the assistance of others present; after some repose and further revels, supper of two courses was served; and, when finished, the marshal was borne in by four men, on a sort of scaffold, and taken three times round the hearth, his bearers crying out, "A lord, a lord!" after which he came down and danced. The lord of misrule then addressed himself to the banquet, which ended with minstrelsy, mirth, and dancing. There was a cessation of sports from Twelfth-night to the first of February, the prince being supposed to be absent in Russia on public affairs. On that day, he was received at Blackwall, as if on his return, and that and the following day were spent in revelling and feasting.

Christmas was always, however, considered the commemoration of a holy festival, to be observed with devotion as well as cheerfulness. The services of the church were attended before the merry-makings began. But in 1642 the fiat went forth that there must be no more celebration of Christmas; people were to go to heaven after the fashion of the Puritans, with long faces and short hair. In 1647, some parish officers were fined and imprisoned for allowing ministers to preach on Christmas day and for permitting the adorning of the church. The parliament, by an order dated 24th of December, 1652, directed "that no observation shall be had of the five-and-twentieth day of December, commonly called Christmas day; nor any solemnity used or exercised in churches upon that day in respect thereof." Evelyn states in his memoirs that, as he and his wife, with others, were taking the sacrament on Christmas day, 1657, the chapel was surrounded by soldiers, and the assembly taken into custody for celebrating the nativity of their Saviour against the ordinance of the commonwealth.

When the "Merrie Monarch" came back to his good subjects, the revival of the Christmas festivities was attempted, with but ill success. The spirit had been checked, and could with difficulty be resuscitated. Neither were the court displays as splendid as before; the spirit was wanting there as elsewhere. But the Christ-kindschen is represented by a young person dressed in white, with a gift crown upon the head, a wand in one hand, and a bell in the other, whose post is behind the tree, where he or she is but dimly seen, owing to the glare of the lights upon it. In other parts of the country, the Christ-child is never represented; the children are told that he has provided the Christmas-tree, and knows through Pelznichel of the conduct of each, but his existence is an article of faith, not an ocular demonstration.

As most of us can testify from early recollections, however, St Niklas, or St. Nicholas, as we call him, is not unknown to the children of this country—only here he generally puts his good things in little stockings hung up for the purpose, instead of arranging them on a Christmas-tree. Just when this custom of hanging up little stockings and these visits of the good old saint began on this side of the Atlantic we leave to learned antiquarians to decide. The following jolly description,* however, of what a little New Yorker witnessed about the year 1784, puts beyond doubt the fact that he used to go his rounds, in this city at least, long before any of us ever received

A VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS.

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;
And mamma in her kerchief and I in my cap
Had just settled our brains for a long winter nap—
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters, and threw up the sash.
The moon, on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave a lustre of midday to objects below;
When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer,
With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick!
More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name:
"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!
On! Comet, on! Cupid, on! Donder and Blitzen—
To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall!
Now, dash away, dash away, dash away, all!"
As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky.
So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys—and St. Nicholas too.
And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
As I drew in my head and was turning around,
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound:
He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples, how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry;
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard of his chin was a white as the snow.
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a little round belly
That shook, when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.
He was chubby and plump—a right jolly old elf;
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And, laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team he gave a whistle,
And away they flew like the down of a thistle;
But I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight:
"*Heppy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!*"

* By Clement C. Moore, born in New York, July 15, 1779. —*Catholic World, January*, 1871.

CHRISTMAS HINTS.—The New York *Tribune* gives some sensible advice to its readers in regard to the observance of the great Christmas festival now almost at hand, from which we extract the following, not having space for the article entire:

* * * * * * * * *

"Remember the poor," not by sending a turkey to one hungry family, or a ton of coal to another, and then dropping the whole class out of your mind for the rest of the holidays, but by actually taking thought how to help them substantially.

* * * * * * * * *

Lastly, and above all, let us all remember in Christmas week, before we give a dollar away, to pay every dollar of our debts. We have no right to give to rich friend or to starving seamstress the money which actually belongs to other people. If we cannot be honest, let us attract no false credit to ourselves by pretending to be generous. We shall not be likely to deceive our neighbors any more than God; and money honestly earned and honestly paid, is twice as five and useful as money given in alms.

THE book of most general circulation and the one to which reference is most frequently made, is the pocket-book.

HANG UP BABY'S STOCKING.

Hang up baby's stocking—
Be sure you don't forget—
The dear little dimpled darling!
She ne'er saw Christmas yet;
But I told her all about it,
And she opened her big blue eyes,
And I'm sure she understands it,
She looks so funny and wise.

Dear! what a tiny stocking!
It doesn't take much to hold
Such little pink toes as baby's
Away from frost and cold,
But then, for the baby's Christmas
It will never do at all;
Why Santa wouldn't be looking
For anything half so small!

I know what we'll do for the baby—
I've thought of the very best plan—
I'll borrow a stocking of grandma,
The longest that ever I can;
And you'll hang it by mine, dear mother,
Right here in the corner, so,
And write a letter to Santa
And fasten it on the toe.

Write: "This is the baby's stocking
That hangs in the corner here;
You never have seen her, Santa,
For she only came this year;
But she's just the blessedest baby—
And now before you go
Just cram her stockings with goodies
From the top clean down to the toe."

CHRISTMAS IN NORWAY.

The great festival of the year in Norway, as among all Germanic nations, is Christmas. Whether it owes all its sanctity to its association with the birth of the Saviour is, however, an open question; for many customs still kept alive in the remoter valleys seem to point beyond the beginning of the Christian era, to the time when the Norsemen ate horseflesh in honor of Odin and Thor and Frey. The festival, as the retaining of the old name indicates, is as yet strongly tinctured with reminiscences of the old pagan Yule. Tracing the character of Christ and his apostles as they appear in many popular *marchen* and legends, the conclusion lies near that the people have, consciously or not, transferred much that was dear to them in the old gods to the new deity, and thus, by a sort of compromise between the old faith and the new, have produced a divine type which is, at all events, sufficiently national to appeal strongly to their Norse hearts. The nationalizing of one's divinity is, of course, not peculiar to Norway; it would have been more singular if Norway had shown no trace of it.

The preparation for the Yuletide, in the way of provisioning the house, would, to American eyes, look perfectly enormous. Baking and brewing and butchering keep the whole household busy during the last three weeks preceding the festival. And the fact that the process is repeated year after year probably proves that it is necessary. Every man, woman and child who comes within stone's throw of the house during the holidays (which usually last until a week after New Year) must be invited in and urged to eat and drink without regard for comfort. Even the birds are to have their share of the Christmas joy. As soon as the church bells have "rung in the feast" at five o'clock in the afternoon of Christmas Eve, the father of the house takes his richest sheaf of oats or barley and attaches it to the end of a pole, which is nailed to the gable of the barns or the storehouses. The mother and the children stand by enjoying the sight of the happy birds fluttering around the sheafs, while the father will perhaps quote the passage about God's care even for the sparrow, wherefore it is right that the sparrow, too, should rejoice on the day when Christ was born.

Among the many evening visitors which are sure to drop in to taste the Christmas brew, some are apt to be disguised in grotesque masks and otherwise fantastically accoutred. These are called Yulebucks, possibly because the most common mask may have been that of a goat or some other horned creature. At present I do not know that any special kind of disguise is preferred. The rule seems to be the more grotesque the better.

The German custom of having poor children wander about on Christmas Eve carrying a large lighted star of canvas, representing the star of Bethlehem, prevails also in Norway. No one can hear their shrill, tiny voices in the snow under his window, singing the dear, familiar carols, and refuse them their well-earned penny.—*Scribner for January.*

WHAT CHRISTMAS MEANS.—Christmas-tide is here again, and every year the preparations for it grow more magnificent. The shops are full of costly furs, costly silks and velvets, costly toys. The book-sellers display books sumptuously bound; and the picture shops are full of gayly framed pictures, great and small. But in the midst of so much hurry and bustle, so many temptations for the purse, so much parade of the external Christmas, there is a growing danger that the Christmas of the heart will be forgotten—the Christmas that means peace and good-will, faithful love, forgiveness of sins, human brotherhood. Would you lay a gift upon the Christmas altar, the old rule holds still, "First be reconciled by thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." This life is all too short for misunderstandings or contention; and why should we, poor, foolish, frail, imperfect children of one Father, be bitter or selfish or cold to each other—we, for all of whom alike came the first blessed gift of Christmas? Let there be less costly present making, and more human sympathy and consideration. Even if Flora McFlimsey be our nearest friend, to add another jewel to those that glitter on her pretty, helpless fingers is hardly worth while. Christmas is not fitly kept by gifts like that. Better fill a poor woman's empty tea caddy, a poor family's empty coal bin—better teach some one human soul the sweet lesson that "all we are brethern"—than drop new gifts into careless hands that are over full already. Human help and human brotherhood, remembering the all loving, all pitying Father who helps us all—that is what Christmas means.—*Ballou's Monthly.*

—The New York *Sun*, which for several months has been beating its rays fiercely down upon questions of "love and marriage," advises young men to be careful how they marry women older than themselves. It says: "A year or two or so sometimes is no harm, but a decade is bad. A young man at eight and twenty is pretty likely to soon find out his mistake if he marries a woman of eight and thirty.

ST. NICHOLAS.

St. Nicholas, as all the world knows, is the patron of children, with whom he is the most popular saint in the calendar. Bishop of Myra, in Lycia, in the time of Constantine the Great, according to the Roman breviary, he supplied three destitute maidens with dowries by secretly leaving a purse of gold at their window, thence the popular fiction that he comes down the chimney on Christmas Eve. He usually makes his appearance from the southan old man with a venerable beard; thence dressed as a bishop, either riding a goat; thence horse or an ass, and carrying a large basket on his arm, and a bundle of rods once south a hand. In some parts of Bohemia he appears dressed up in a sheet instead of a surplice, with a crushed pillow on his head instead of a mitre. On his calling out, "Wilt thou pray?" all the children fall upon their knees, whereupon he lets fall some fruit upon the floor and disappears. In this manner he goes from house to house, sometimes ringing a bell to announce his arrival, visits the nurseries, inquires into the conduct of the children, praises or admonishes them, as the case may be, distributing sweetmeats or rods accordingly.

St. Nicholas is the Santa Claus of Holland, and the Smiklaus of Switzerland, and the Sonnor Klas of Heligoland. In the Vorarlberg he is known as Zemmiklas, who threatens to put naughty children into his hay-sack; in Nether Austria as Niklo, or Niglo, who is followed by a masked servant called Krampus; while in the Tyrol he goes by the name of the "Holy Man," and shares the patronage of his office with St. Luco, who distributes gifts among the girls, as he among the boys. Sometimes he is accompanied by the Christ-child.

In many parts of Switzerland, Germany, and the Netherlands, St. Nicholas still distributes his presents on St. Nicholas Eve—the 5th of December—instead of on Christmas Eve. In the Netherlands and adjoining provinces he is especially popular, and is perhaps the only saint who has maintained his full credit, even among the Protestants. For days previous to his expected advent busy housewives have been secretly conspiring with the bakers in gilding nuts, cakes and gingerbread, and torturing pastry, prepared with flour, sugar, honey, spices and sweetmeats, into the most fantastical forms, from which the good saint may from time to time replenish his supplies. As to the children, St. Nicholas or Sunder Klass is the burden of their prayers, the staple of their dreams, and the inspiration of their song. As they importune him to let fall from the chimney-top some pretty gift into their little aprons, they go on singing with childish fervor:

"Sunder Klass du gode Bloot!
Breng mi Noot un Zuckerbrod,
Nicht to veel un nich to mina
Suiet in mine Schorten in!"

In Belgium, on the eve of the good bishop's serial voyage in his pastoral visitation of his bishoprics of chimney-tops, the children polish their shoes, and after filling them with hay, oats or carrots for the saint's white horse, they put them on a table, or set them in the fire-place. The room is then carefully closed and the door locked. Next morning it is opened in the presence of the assembled household, when *mirabile dictu!* the furniture is found to be turned topsy turvy, while the little shoes, instead of horse's forage, are filled with sweetmeats and toys for the good children, and with rods for the bad ones. In some places wooden or China shoes, stockings, baskets, cups and saucers, and even bundles of hay, are placed in the chimney, or by the side of the bed, or in a corner of the room, as the favorite receptacle of St. Nicholas's present.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.

The custom of decorating with evergreens at Christmas is far from being a modern one. The Romans two thousand years ago did the same thing. Indeed it is more than probable that the origin of adorning our homes with ivy, holly, and bay must be sought for in the Roman saturnalia, held every year toward the end of December. Formerly the decorations of rooms consisted of a few branches of evergreen stuck here and there; but now they are of a much more complicated character. To make effective and pretty designs requires good taste, practice, skill, and a general knowledge of the materials to be employed. Although holly, ivy, and mistletoe are principally used, there are many other plants admirably adapted to intersperse with the above. Among them are arbutus, aucuba, bay, euonymus, gold and silver hollies, ivies of different colors, laurels, laurustinus, Portugal laurel, spruce and silver firs, yew, and so forth; also branchlets of arbor-vitæ, cypress, deodar, juniper, thuja, or any other ornamental shrubs obtainable. According to the style of decoration, so the foundation must be selected. For garlands, wire or strong cord should be used: the latter is preferable, however, as it is not so liable to twist as wire; and, for what are called upright wreaths or panels, fine iron rods are the best. For ornamental

THE CAMBRIA FREEMAN.

Ebensburg, Pa.,

FRIDAY, - - - DEC. 21, 1877.

A CORRESPONDENT desires us to inform him what State and county officers are to be elected next November. We answer, that the State officers to be voted for are Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Secretary of Internal Affairs, each of whose term of office will be four years, being the first extension of the Governor's term from three to four years under a provision of the new constitution. A Judge of the Supreme Court for twenty-one years will also be elected. The county officers to be voted for will be Register and Recorder, County Treasurer, three County Commissioners, three County Auditors, and a Poor House Director. No elector can vote for more than two Commissioners, or two Auditors, which will give the Democrats two and the Republicans one of each. A member of Congress will also be elected, this district composed of Cambria, Blair, Bedford and Somerset counties.

PHILADELPHIA correspondent of the Pittsburgh *Telegraph* is responsible for the statement that a private conference was recently held at the Girard House between ex-Governor Bigler, Senator Wallace and Hendrick B. Wright in which the two first named gentlemen pledged their personal influence to Wright, in favor of his nomination next year as the Democratic candidate for Governor. If, by a mere accident, Messrs. Bigler, Wallace and Wright met at the Girard House, it is very likely that the Luzerne statesman solicited the aid and assistance of the two Clearfield politicians in his behalf for the purpose indicated, but that they then and there agreed and promised to set him up and work for him as a prospective candidate for Governor is too preposterous for belief. They are not seeking entrance into a lunatic asylum and understand Democratic sentiment in this State too well to embark in any such Quixotic enterprise as the one attributed to them by the correspondent of the *Telegraph*.

THE danger which for some weeks past seriously threatened the peace of France, growing out of the formation of a cabinet by President MacMahon that would be acceptable to the Republican majority of the new Chamber of Deputies, has happily passed away. After several fruitless attempts, President MacMahon was induced a *second* time to entrust M. Dufaure its selection. He is a Senator of moderate Republican views, and from his high character and advanced age enjoys the entire confidence of the French people. He has succeeded in the difficult task assigned him, and has selected a cabinet which meets with the full approbation of a majority of the Deputies and their constituents. The President sent his message to the Chamber on Friday last, by which it was well received, and at once commenced the active work of legislation. Great rejoicing is manifested throughout France over the peaceable settlement of the vexed question, and if the Republican leaders display the same prudence and moderation in the future as they have in the past the permanent peace of the country may be regarded as assured.

THERE is a remarkable coincidence between the number of Turks under Osman Pasha when he surrendered at Plevna and the number of confederate troops surrendered by Gen. Lee at Appomattox; and the same coincidence exists as to the numerical strength of the Russians around Plevna and the strength of the army under Grant before Petersburg. The most reliable accounts fix the number of men under Osman Pasha, at the time of his surrender, at between 28,000 and 35,000. The number of confederate soldiers paroled by Gen. Grant when Gen. Lee surrendered, was about 33,000, according to our recollection. The Russians had 120,000 men surrounding Plevna, and the force under Grant while operating against Lee was estimated at 135,000. Both surrenders were of vast importance—that of Gen. Lee putting an end to the contest, while the full ultimate effect of the Turkish disaster at Plevna remains yet to be seen. That it requires any very great military skill in the general of an army four or five times as strong as the enemy to compel a surrender is too silly a proposition to discuss. It is the mere triumph of the force of numbers—a yielding by a weaker side to an inevitable result. The consequences of such a surrender may prove to be great and important, but the military glory resulting therefrom is scarcely visible to the naked eye.

THE Legislature will meet next Tuesday week. After 1878 the new constitution prohibits adjourned sessions, such as the approaching one will be, and after the regular session, commencing in January, 1879, there can be no session until January, 1881, and so on biennially thereafter. At the close of the session last spring 278 bills, some of which were on first, some on second, and some on third reading, were left undisposed of. These bills will all come up in their regular order for final action. In addition to this mass of unfinished legislation, a fresh supply will of course be forthcoming large enough to continue the session *ad infinitum*, if that were possible, but we are not aware of any important legislation of a general character which will be likely to run the session beyond fifty days. An effort will be made—at least it has been so stated—to pass an act relating in some way to the payment of the damages resulting from the Pittsburgh railroad riots. If so, it is a matter that will need careful watching, so that the responsibility may not be shifted from where it properly belongs. The advocates of local option propose again to press the re-enactment of that project, but as it has been so often and so thoroughly discussed in the Legislature and by the public press, it ought not to consume much time in disposing of it. The people want a short session and the fewest possible number of laws enacted.

THERE is a restless class of people in this country not residing on the Texas side of the Rio Grande who would be pleased to see Congress re-enact the celebrated resolution adopted in the early part of the administration of President Polk, which declared that war between the two Republics existed by the act of Mexico. If Congress could be induced to do so, it would be a most monstrous and unpardonable crime, To justify any war there must exist an adequate cause, and that any good cause now exists for hostilities between the United States and Mexico is untrue and without the shadow of foundation. It is true that for many years bands of lawless characters, intent upon rapine and plunder, have crossed the Rio Grande from Mexico into Texas, and driven back immense numbers of cattle and horses stolen from their Texas owners. It is almost impossible to prevent these forays across a narrow stream like the Rio Grande, which, for hundreds of miles, forms the boundary line between the two countries. The only way to stop them is through a sufficient military force stationed along the Mexican side of the river, and this is now being done by President Diaz ordering there a large body of regular troops. Our own government is doing the same thing and is sending to Gen. Ord all the men he deems necessary to enable him to preserve the peace by arresting and punishing the raiders. These raids are mutual and take place from the Texas side as well as from the Mexican, but the military forces of the two countries will now put a summary end to them. The troubles in El Paso county, the extreme south-western portion of Texas, adjoining Old and New Mexico, have grown out of a disputed claim to some old salt wells, the right to use which for a very long period has been the cause of riotous broils, which sometimes, as now, end in bloodshed. An adequate military force has been ordered there to suppress the disturbance. Neither Gen. Sherman nor Gen. Ord anticipate a war, nor do they desire it, for the plain reason that there is no just cause or excuse for one. The people turn from its contemplation with a feeling of horror and will never sanction it, as they very properly think that blood enough was shed during the four years of the rebellion in this country to satisfy the thirst of the moloch of war for a century to come. The ways of the people now are ways of pleasantness, and all their paths are peace.

GEN. M. C. BUTLER, the new Senator from South Carolina, lives in the town of Edgefield, in the county of the same name, in the southern part of the State. Hamburg is in the same county and about ten miles south of Edgefield. The Hamburg massacre, as it is called, occurred there in July, 1876, in which several negroes were killed, and the Republican press in the north has maintained that Gen. Butler was the active instigator of the trouble, and that he is responsible for the loss of life that resulted from a difficulty between some white men and a procession of negroes who were celebrating the 4th of July. Gen. Butler has always claimed that the charge was entirely false and that his hands were clear of the blood of the negroes who were slaughtered on that unfortunate occasion. The charge was repeated, however, by Republican Senators when the question of Butler's admission to a seat was under discussion, but John J. Patterson, in his speech in the Senate, declared that Butler was guiltless, and had acted the part of a peacemaker at Hamburg. If Gen. Butler was implicated in the manner charged against him, the negroes of Edgefield would know all about it and would not soon forget or forgive him; yet when the news of his having taken his seat in the Senate was received at Edgefield, the members of the *colored* fire company of that place, in full uniform, formed in procession, and waiting on Mrs. Butler at her residence tendered their congratulations over her husband's admission. Mrs. Butler paid every attention to her colored visitors, who left her with loud cheers for Gen. Butler and his family. If he was the head and front of the slaughter at Hamburg, the negroes living in Edgefield seem never to have heard about it. We understand that when the Senate meets again, after the holiday recess, Gen. Butler proposes to explode the calumny and establish his innocence by the most undoubted proof.

THE Boston *Pilot* of last week publishes the following: The report of the Mitred Abbot of the Benedictines, which we publish this week, is one of the most interesting insights that has appeared into the life of the modern Indian camp. We learn from Abbot Martin that the whole story of "the Custer fight," as we have it from sensational reporters, is untrue. There was no heroic struggle—no splendid "Long Hair," admired and mourned over by his red enemies. The U. S. soldiers, as Sitting Bull himself stated to Abbot Martin, were worn out, and too tired and weak to fight. They were surrounded, became terror stricken, and were slaughtered with clubs, "to save ammunition." No one recognized Custer; Sitting Bull had never seen him, and did not know he had long hair. Indeed, the entire heroics of the story are dissipated by the plain tale of the missionary. We learn, however, by telegraph from Canada, that Abbot Martin's hopes for the peaceful settlement of the Sioux in Manitoba are not likely to be fulfilled. Sitting Bull is too turbulent a spirit to sit down content with enough and peace. It appears that he has been warned by the Canadian Government that his people must not kill buffalo under certain restrictions. Sitting Bull says he would like to know when the Almighty gave the Canadian Government authority to keep the Indians from killing buffalo; and he has assumed an air of supreme defiance; so that, the report says, "trouble is feared."

BOTH houses of Congress adjourned on Saturday last until Thursday, the 10th of January. Neither the bill repealing the date of the specie resumption act, (January 1st, 1879,) nor the silver dollar bill, both of which have passed the House, was discussed before the adjournment, but will be among the first measures considered after the recess.

THE wife of Joseph Myan, of Chicago, eloped with her sister's husband. The question with Joseph is, "Where is that wife of Myan?"

Our Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18, 1877.

IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

of the Senate last Friday, upon the question of confirming the appointment of Edward C. Wades a Collector of Internal Revenue for the third district of Georgia, a very bitter, insulting and personally abusive encounter took place between Conkling and General Gordon. Gen. Gordon told Conkling that he was assuming too much when he undertook to order Senators and the Vice President to go on with the business, to which Conkling replied by saying that the statement was "*untrue*," as he did not so order the Senators. Gordon followed Conkling's disclaimer with the remark, "*This can be settled elsewhere*," and as Conkling announced his readiness to settle it elsewhere, a duel is looked for, provided Conkling has the pluck to fight. Conkling was the more excited of the two, but both Senators were in very bad temper. Senators Thurman and Hamlin attempted to pour oil on their billiousness, and reminded them that there was no need of a misunderstanding. Nothing further was said by either Gordon or Conkling, and their quietness is regarded an intention to "settle it elsewhere," and we expectantly look for the spilling of blood. Mutual friends of both Senators Gordon and Conkling are earnestly at work endeavoring to smooth over the differences between them. Be the result what it may, Wade was confirmed by the solid Republican vote, and Mr. Hayes had the unanimous support of his party for the first time since he assumed the position rightfully belonging to another; and as the Senate has seen fit to spread upon the record an *amende honorable*, in expianatory resolutions, between these two belligerents, we presume no further steps will be taken by any one. There never has been any good blood existing between Messrs. Gordon and Conkling, and all their past intercourse has partaken of the icicle and iceberg nature; hence, like school boys, each one has always had a chip on his hat daring the other to knock it off.

THE ADJOURNMENT

till January 10th took place Saturday without any excitement. The rads were determined to prevent the passage of Mr. Woods' investigation resolutions, and occupied nearly all the afternoon with dilatory motions, on which they refused to vote. As enough Democrats were absent to leave the House without a quorum unless the rads would vote, Mr. Wood, rather than conduct a hopeless fight until midnight, had the resolutions go over until after the recess, and shortly after this conclusion the House followed the example of the Senate and adjourned. We regard the session so far as an important one, as the action upon the appropriation bills, the Paris Exposition bill, and the various financial measures, show more real work done in the outstart of the session than at that of any preceding Congress. The rads. are charging the Democrats with devoting their time to "chin music," but the fac's show a vast amount of work accomplished.

THE PAPER AND SILVER PARTY

have organized a committee of one Senator and member from each State for the promotion of public sentiment in favor of the repeal of the resumption act and the passage of the silver bill, and have succeeded in enlisting prominent men from both houses in all the States except New York, New Jersey and the New England States, the latter being represented only by Ben. Butler, of Massachusetts, and Phelps, of Connecticut. Some surprise is expressed at the long list of eminent men, many of whom had been presumed to be hand-in-hand with the bondholders and capitalists, but the "prominent men" dared not set at defiance the will of the masses, who, like Banquo's ghost, would not down at the bidding.

A SUSPENSION OF THE NOMINATION BUSINESS

is seriously threatened by Secretary Evarts, who alleges that it is almost useless to send any more appointments to the Senate for confirmation, judging by the late conduct of the Senate in regard to the New York appointments, the Senate having thereby refused to confirm any but those whom the extreme radicals choose to dictate. Mr. Evarts, in conversation with us, however, slightly toned down the above by saying that where there was urgent necessity for an officer, he might make an appointment, but the Cabinet had pretty generally concluded to make no more nominations. Should this conclusion prevail it will play *hobbs* with a good many Senators who opposed the administration in the late encounter, as they all want places for their friends; and we surmise the wily Evarts has adopted this plan as a retaliation for the course pursued in the Senate by the rads.

AN INVASION BY MEXICO.

The Diaz Minister, who was heard by the military committee on Mexican topics, against the protest of Mr. Evarts, is the first instance where a foreigner was ever allowed to plead before Congress, except through the regular channel, the Secretary of State; but the committee were not disposed to submit to the dictum of "Brother Jonathan" of the State Department, and Conkling's motion for a special committee to take charge of our Mexican imbroglio is looked upon by "Brother Jonathan" as an outrageous encroachment upon the State Department's jurisdiction over foreign affairs.

NOT FOR WAR.

The discussion in the House over our Mexican border troubles indicated very emphatically that the war spirit in that body is at a very low ebb at present, every disposition being displayed to create no useless popular alarm. While the ideas advanced from both sides of the House were mild and peaceful, still there was no feeling evidence, to refuse the people of Texas a sufficient military force to protect their frontier from Mexican raids.

HORRIBLE AFFAIR IN INDIANA.—A most atrocious fratricide, instigated by the wife of the murdered man and the mother of the murderer, occurred at Lawrenceville, Dearborn county, Ind., a few days ago, the victim being a lumberman named Jos. Kungler, who had had trouble with his wife and had sued for a divorce, though he was still living in the same house with her. On the night of the murder he went down town, and in his absence his wife persuaded their son, thirteen years old, to kill his father on his return. He promised to do so, and, loading a shot-gun, lay in wait for his father. When he came the boy shot him through the back of the head. He fell mortally wounded and crying for help. The mother then took the gun and laid it by his side, he being still alive and calling for help. The mother and son then retired, but could not sleep, and finally arose, and, cooking supper, ate it, and thus spent the night, all the time hearing the moans and pleadings of the wounded and dying man. In the morning a neighbor came and found Kungler still alive and lying in a pool of blood, but unable to speak. The wife was meantime at work, paying no attention to him. She said he had committed the act himself. After he died the Coroner made an examination, found this could not be true, and began an investigation. The boy, being accused, finally confessed the whole affair and said his mother had been urging him to shoot his father for a year. Both parties are under arrest. The excitement in the town and surrounding country is intense.

A Wonderful Clock.

The Lancaster *Intelligencer* says there is now on exhibition at Reading what in all probability is the most wonderful clock in the world. Capt. J. Reid, the owner, declares that it is far more wondrous than the greatest of all clocks, the one at Strasburg, and when he takes it to Paris next year it will not only open the eyes of the world, but will realize a handsome fortune for its owner. The paper from which we quote thus describes this remarkable piece of mechanism:

It was conceived and built by Stephen D. Engle, a jeweler and watchmaker at Hazleton, this State. He is about forty-five years of age, a married man, with a wife and children, and he was about twenty years in perfecting the clock. Mr. Reid says he paid Engle $5,000 for it, and gave him an order for another and much larger one to cost $50,000. Engle never saw the Strasburg clock. In fact he has seen but little of this world, as he has not traveled more than 200 miles from home at any time.

This clock stands eleven feet high. At its base it is about four feet wide and at the top about two. It is about three feet deep at the base, gradually less toward the top. Its colors are dark brown and gold. The Strasburg clock is thirty feet high, yet its mechanism is not so intricate nor has it as many figures as the Hazleton clock. The Strasburg clock's figures are about three feet high and the American clock about nine inches. A view of the latter's working, as can be seen at its daily exhibitions, is far more satisfactory than that of the Strasburg clock.

The Engle clock shows at the top an apostolic procession, the tempting Satan, Christ, the three Marys, a figure of Justice and a golden cock, that crows after Peter has passed. Three minutes before the hour (any hour in the twenty-four) a pipe organ inside the clock plays a hymn or an anthem. It has five tunes. Bells are then rung, and when the hour is struck the apostolic march commences. Double doors in an alcove open and a figure of Jesus appears. Double doors to the left then open and the apostles appear slowly one by one in procession. As they appear and pass Jesus they turn towards Him. Jesus bows, the apostle turns again and proceeds through the double doors in an alcove on the right. As Peter approaches Satan looks out of a window above and tempts him. Five times the devil appears, and when Peter passes, denying Christ, the cock flaps its wings and crows. When Judas Iscariot appears Satan comes down from his window and follows Judas out in the procession, and then goes back and up to his place to watch Judas, appearing on both sides. The Biblical lesson is magnificently illustrated, the figures being carved and colored after a very old and reliable painting. After the procession has passed, Jesus and the three Marys disappear and the door is closed. This scene can be repeated seven times in an hour if necessary, and the natural motion of the clock produces it four times per hour, whereas the Strasburg procession is made but once a day, at 12 o'clock.

Below the plaza where the procession is made on the Engle clock is the main dial, about 12 inches in diameter. To its right is a figure of "Time," with an hour glass. Above this is a window, at which appear figures representing youth, manhood and old age. To the left of the dial is a skeleton representing death.

When the hour hand approaches the first quarter, Father Time reverses his hour glass and strikes one on a bell with his scythe, when another bell inside responds; then Childhood appears instantly. When the hour hand approaches the second quarter, or half hour, there are heard the strokes of two bells. Then Youth appears and the organ plays a sacred hymn. At the third quarter Time strikes two and reverses his hour glass, when two bells respond inside. One minute after this a chime of bells is heard, when a folding door opens in the upper porch and one at the right of the court, when the Saviour comes walking out. Then the apostles appear in procession. The clock also tells of the moon's changes, the tides, the seasons, days, and day of the month and year, and the signs of the zodiac; and on top a soldier in armor is constantly on guard, walking back and forward. As the hours advance, Manhood, Old Age and death take part in the panorama. It is a marvelous work of genius, and one that should be seen to be appreciated.

BRIDGETS.—Mrs. Swisshelm says all Irish serving girls are thieves, and divide the stolen property with the priests.

The above is clipped from the editorial columns of yesterday morning's *Post*. It is a sweeping assertion, and like all sweeping assertions, is atrociously unjust. If *The Post* would not just a little too apt at so paraphrasing the words of those who attack the Democratic party or the Catholic Church, as to misrepresent them to their hurt, we should at once say that the lady has been guilty of a very foul libel against a large and not unworthy class of fellow beings. As it is, we are inclined to take the middle course, and give Mrs. Swisshelm the benefit of the doubt. Until she says so in so many words, over her own signature, we shall refuse to believe that she could so recklessly assail the character of the women of the Irish race, who, we really believe, have as much honesty and virtue and women of any favored race, of corresponding culture and intelligence, in the world.—*Sunday Leader*.

As we generally know what we are talking about, and are never in the habit of making sweeping assertions without facts to sustain our assertions, we submit the following verbatim copy from the *United Presbyterian*, December 6th, signed Jane Grey Swisshelm, which we commend to the editor of the *Leader*:

The Church has her organized corps of Bridgets as completely under her control as any company of nuns, and uses her powerful machinery to keep them employed in wealthy Protestant families. Bridget has degraded the business until women of self-respect refuse to be classed with her and she has the field to herself. A large proportion of her wages goes to the Church and priests as servants and workers in the common enemy. Then Bridget seldom, if ever, fails to double or treble or quadruple her wages by theft; and for every pound of sugar she steals she must give an account to her confessor, who grants absolution on condition that she divides. Bridget cannot appropriate the smallest article without confessing to his Reverance, yet we all know she steals more than her wages. She never gets absolution for one of her thefts without paying for it, and so the Philistines are spoiled to enrich the Church!

We do not believe there is a decent woman in this or any other city, that shares this opinion, and how any man, who claims to be a minister of the gospel, should print and indorse a slander upon a class of woman whose purity and integrity stand without a parallel, is more than we can unders and. To say that every Irish girl is a thief and every Catholic priest is a receiver of stolen goods is so vile and infamous that it carries with it its own refutation.—*Pittsburgh Post*.

REMARKABLE SURGICAL CASE.—A curious case, unparalleled in the annals of surgery, in progress at Jamestown, New York, is attracting the attention of the medical men all over the country. Mrs. Hay, a mill employee, in some manner was caught by the hair on a revolving shaft, and the scalp was torn off from the neck to the eyebrows—leaving the skull entirely bare, and making a wound fifty-nine square inches in extent. She walked to her home five hundred feet distant, and gave orders about sending for a surgeon before she became unconscious. At first an attempt was made to replace the scalp, and it was patched up and sewed on, but soon began to slough off, and the physicians were at a loss as to the course they should pursue. At last, however, they hit upon the experiment of grafting, and published a card in the daily papers explaining the case, and asking contributions from young and healthy people to replace the scalp. The young people responded in goodly numbers to the call, and the doctors took from each of their arms a very small piece of skin, which was transferred to the head of the unfortunate woman. At first the experiment seemed doubtful, but at last the grafts began to adhere, and the patient is now in a fair way of recovery. Two hundred and forty-one "plants" have been applied, which cover about half the scalp, and the remainder will be placed in position as soon as possible. Mrs. Hay has been unconscious for days, but the enthusiastic physicians who have the case in hand are very sanguine that she will ultimately recover.

THE first State election of the new year will take place in New Hampshire, where, in March, a Governor, Railroad Commissioner and Legislature will be chosen. Dates for the State Convention of both parties have been fixed, and the canvass for the Republican nomination for the leading place has opened in a lively manner.

ON Friday thirty eight men employed at the Philadelphia navy yard were discharged—all democrats residing in Speaker Randall's district.

News and Other Notings.

—James R. Harvey, of Sewickley township, Allegheny county, is 102 years old. His father fought in Washington's army.

—The decision in the case of the Huron is that bad seamenship was the cause of the wreck, the ship being stanch and sound.

—A daughter of Wm. Swartz, of Lewistown, had her foot poisoned by wearing red stockings, the coloring ingredient of which was poisonous.

—Calvin Fisher, aged fourteen years, was tried in Mercer county for the murder of his father. The jury acquitted him without leaving the box.

—A sauer kraut sociable for Christmas eve is proposed by a Pittsburgh journalist. The profits will be devoted to the benefit of the fraternity of that city.

—Abraham Buckwalter, who died recently near Kimberton, Pa., in his eighty-first year, left six of a family, whose ages are respectively 88, 84, 82, 79, 77, 75.

—The Congregational church of Walcott, Mass., has decided that the use of wine at the communion table tends to promote intemperance. Water is hereafter to be used.

—B. D. Koons, ex-member of the Legislature, has been convicted of embezzling $1,200 from the Odd Fellows Lodge at Wilkes-barre. Koons has applied for a new trial.

—A woman fifty-nine years old, with her son, arrived in La Grange, Oregon, recently, having walked thither from her home in Indiana. She carried a pack weighing seventy-five pounds.

—James Ryer and wife, of Fayette county, were imprisoned in the penitentiary on Friday. They had robbed a Methodist church, for which they were sentenced for sixteen months each.

—Samuel Penn, aged 89; Mrs. Anna Penn, aged 77; Mrs. Rachel Cooper, aged 88; and Mrs. Lydia Garrison, aged 85 years, live in one house on South Laurel street, Bridgeton, N. J.

—Daniel Mitchell, who is serving a six year sentence in the western penitentiary, was tried a few days ago in Armstrong county and sentenced to eighteen months additional imprisonment.

—The Brazilian Parliament has voted a yearly subsidy of $100,000 during ten years for a line of steamers to the United States. This is one of the first fruits of Dom Pedro's Centennial visit.

—Early Saturday morning a mob surrounded the county jail at Denver, Col., and, forcing the key from the jailor, took Shumine, the notorious outlaw and murderer, from jail and hung him.

—A brother and sister, each of whom supposed the other dead, met by accident in Charlotte, N. C., a few days ago after a separation of thirty-seven years, only to find they had been living in the same neighborhood all the time.

—Mrs. Shadle, of Guthrie, Ia., has been in a trance for six months past, only awaking once in October to speak to her family. She is regularly fed, but gives no signs of knowing or appreciating what it is she is eating.

—More than 150,000 boxes of clothespins are annually shipped from this country to England, and great quantities to New Zealand, the Sandwich Islands and Australia. That's the kind of a clothes-pin we are.

—There appears on the registry list of Stanislaus county, Cal., the following remarkable entry: "John L. Crawford, voting number, 393; register number, 808; age 29; country of nativity, England; occupation, hog thief."

—State Treasurer elect Noyes has appointed John Miller, Chester county, cashier, and Messrs. Fleming, Lock Haven, and S. J. McMullen, Williamsport, clerks, leaving a vacancy of one clerk, one messenger and a night watchman.

—John Young, James Casey, William Rivers, George Kent, William Davis and William Masters, convicted of horse stealing and other offenses in the Allegheny county court, have each been sentenced to six years and nine months in the penitentiary.

—Tom Thumb never used to hang up his stockings on Christmas eve. He would tie a string around the bottom of each pantaloon leg, and hang them up; and then he would growl next morning because his little brother's stockings held the most.

—Mrs. Veldran, of Lower Bank, N. J., complained of not feeling well, and while Mr. V. was absent a few minutes to secure the assistance of a neighbor she died. As soon as it was discovered that she was dead, the husband sank down and almost instantly expired.

—Mrs. Muthersbough, of Lewistown, last week made a mountain ash cake which measured 4½ feet in circumference. 8½ inches in height, and weighed 50 lbs.—It contained 20 pounds of sugar, 5 pounds of butter, 4 quarts of milk, and 82 eggs, in addition to flour, etc.

—Colonel John Morgan, of Fayette county, who was born August 6, 1790, and who sat in the Legislature when the members wore red womases and ate their cheese on the Capitol steps, rides from his home to Uniontown, a distance of twelve miles, before breakfast frequently, to attend to business.

—Master Conway, of the Huron, was rebuked for appearing before the Court of Inquiry without a uniform, when he had lost every garment he had and was washed ashore naked. As he did not appear before the dignified tribunal in that condition the rebuke seems rather severe, not to say uncalled for.

—At St. Louis Mrs. Louisa Weber, wife of Oscar Weber, cut the throat of her infant thirteen months old, and then cut her own throat, in a fit of insanity, on Sunday morning. The infant will die, but the mother, although she has three terrible gashes on her neck, made by a razor, will probably recover.

—It is said that within the coming week Mr. and Mrs. Hayes will celebrate their silver wedding, and they speak of inviting all those now living who witnessed their marriage twenty-five years ago to be present. The advocates of silver in congress will each send a dollar of the daddies as an appropriate present.

—In Susquehanna county, Edwin Brandow, who was hunting with two companions, lost his life recently under the following circumstances: Coming to an apple tree he raised his gun and used it to knock off an apple. The hammer caught on a twig, and the load was discharged into his breast, killing him instantly.

—A dispatch from Cincinnati says that considerable excitement exists in that city over recent discoveries of petroleum in the Cumberland mountains between Kentucky and Tennessee. The tests applied have been so successful as to inspire a general belief that this region will prove richer in oil than any part of the oil belt in Pennsylvania.

—A dwarf said to be fifty-one years old and fourteen and a half inches tall, named Sato Yukichi, is about to be exhibited in Tokio. The irregularity of proportion for which Mr. Sato is conspicuous is not less remarkable than his condensed compactness. His head is seven and a half inches long while all the rest of his body measures only seven inches.

—A man in Franklin made "a whistle out of a pig's tail," and sent it to the editors of the *Derrick*, who acknowledged its receipt in this wise: "We are glad to receive the whistle, but it almost breaks our heart to lose the adage. We hope no one will send us a silk purse made of a sow's ear until our heart-strings cease to vibrate from this terrible shock."

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Complete Man's Suit, - - - - - $9
Better One, - - - - - - - $11
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Diagonal Suits, Double Breasted Frock Style, Whole Suit, - $17 50
Sold elsewhere at $25.
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Boys' Suits as low as - - - $2 50
Men's Overcoats, - - - - $8 to $30

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OAK HALL,
Sixth & Market Sts., Philadelphia.

—George H. Price, who became famous for his bravery while messenger for the Adams Express Company in killing a burglar who attempted to rob the safes of the company, and who was recently arrested for the embezzlement of $300 from the company, was on Friday set free at Chicago.

—A. Shannoi, a French miner employed at the Hood Mines, near Youngstown, Ohio, stepped into the car Saturday morning to go down the slope, supposing it coupled to the chain that lets it down at a gradual speed. It being uncoupled his weight started it, taking him to the bottom, two hundred feet, at a fearful speed, breaking his neck and killing him instantly. He leaves a large family destitute.

—Benjamin Mott died recently at Albburg, Vt. He was an ardent sympathizer with the French Canadian rebels of 1837-8, and when he left home to join their forces, his wife, who knew nothing of his intentions, bade him bring home a pound of tea. At a fight next day he was made prisoner by the British and shortly after condemned to death, a sentence commuted to transportation to Van Dieman's Land. He was released in 1846 and enabled to return home. Like a dutiful husband he did not forget the tea, but entered his house after an eight years' absence, placed a package on the table and said to his wife, who had failed to recognize him, "Mother, here's that tea."

—On the New York and Harlem Road there is a conductor who seems to have a singular propensity for leaving his train when it is in motion. About a year ago he was badly hurt by walking out of the open door of a baggage car after his hat, which had blown off. One day last week he was taking up tickets while his train was passing through the Fourth avenue tunnel in New York. After passing through the rear car he went on, thinking there was another car, and deliberately walked off the rear platform and fell to the track. He was soon missed, the train was stopped and help sent back, when he was found lying on the track, insensible and badly bruised, but with no bones broken.

—Quite an interesting *habeas corpus* case was before the Court of Common Pleas at Napoleon, O., on Friday and Saturday last. It seems that one Spangler had procured a marriage license from the Probate Court to marry Miss Jennie McHenry, aged nineteen, daughter of Dr. McHenry, of that place, who had been adjudged a lunatic, and was then under charge of a guardian. The parties were married and went to Defiance. In the meantime the father of the bride procured a writ of *habeas corpus*, armed with which the Sheriff proceeded to Defiance, and upon their nuptial night took the bride and groom from bed and brought them back to Napoleon. After hearing the testimony in the case, Judge Owen declared the bride a lunatic and the marriage a nullity, and remanded the girl back to her guardian. The Judge was over an hour in giving his decision of the case, which is admitted to be one of unusual importance and fraught with grave responsibilities.

—The newly elected Bishop of the new Episcopal diocese of Quincy, Illinois, Dr. Lemuel Harris, has had rather an eventful career. He was born near Montgomery, Alabama, and is thirty-seven years of age. He graduated in the University of Alabama in 1859, and was admitted to the bar in 1860 by special act of the Legislature. He entered the Confederate service in 1861 and remained to 1865, on staff duty as Major. After the war he practiced law for three years in New York, attaining great eminence for one so young. He studied for the ministry in New York, and his first station was at Augusta, Ga., the largest congregation in the Diocese. His second was Trinity Parish, New Orleans, the largest in the South. In 1875 he became Rector of of St. James, Chicago, and immediately took a front rank in influence and power. In this influential Diocese all who knew him speak in the highest praise of him, both as a man and a minister. Bishop McLaren paid him an especially high tribute.

—Judge Dean, of Hot Sulphur Springs, Middle Park, Colorado, arrived at Georgetown, Col., Friday night, and reported that his court had been broken up by a mob the day previous. Half a dozen men entered the court room peaceably, and having arranged themselves to suit their purpose the ringleader, said to be the Deputy Sheriff elect, began to read what purported to be a warrant, commanding Judge Dean to disperse his so-called court, and to deliver up the books and seal. Judge Dean commanded him to sit down, and threatened to place him under arrest, laying his hand upon his shoulder. Just then Dean was struck back of the ear. The pretended officer drew a revolver and shot at Dean, the ball passing close to his head. There was a general rush, and, although revolvers were held at his head, Dean succeeded in locking up the records and seal, after which he started for Denver to ask the Governor to assist in restoring order. With such a mob hounding him, he dares not open court.

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These select, original and valuable contributions from so many ladies have never before appeared in book form, and this volume is the best and most complete compilation from the *Tribune* columns. Good judges have predicted that its sale will reach hundreds of thousands, and this prediction is strengthened if not verified by the fact that ten thousand copies were ordered before the copies came from the bindery. We have exclusive control of the book in this locality, and it can be obtained only through this office and only by those who comply with the above terms on or before the 1st day of February next; when the work will be ready for distribution, and when all who have already paid or will by that time have paid $1.75 or $1.90, as the case may be—the former sum by those in town and the latter by subscribers outside of the county—for the coming volume of the FREEMAN (1878), will each be presented with a copy of the book.

This is the choicest premium ever given to newspaper subscribers—something of real and practical value. The ladies will be delighted with it, and to them we appeal in a special manner for aid and encouragement. If they cannot induce their husbands, fathers, brothers, sons, or other relatives or friends of the sterner sex to accept this very liberal offer, they can certainly be induced to do so if they knew that so much could be had for so little. Remember that you get a newspaper at a reduction in price that will compare favorably with any of its competitors, while at the same time you receive a valuable, practical and useful book of reference without any extra charge. Now is your opportunity, as this unprecedented offer, which is open to all, no matter whether they are in or out, will expire in a few weeks.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

Here, There, and the Other Place.

—Hang up your hosiery.

—Look out for flies in your Christmas pies.

—Canine pups serve the same purpose as cats. That's the question.

—No paper will be issued from this office next week. Mind that now.

—The terrible quinsy has let go its grip, and once more Brother James is making things rip.

—Gather together all your old, battered toys, and send them to the poor children. They won't know any better.

—The illicit whisky distillers in the northern part of this county propose to keep *still* as long as the detectives let them alone.

—All the sweet things you need for the holidays can be bought very cheap at the confectionery establishment of E. C. Parrish.

—"Indigator" is too long winded for us this week, but as the effusion is one that age cannot effect, it will do just as well for our next issue.

—Mr. Sampson Taylor, the mighty Nimrod of Altoona, succeeded on Friday last in killing a buck and doe, the fattest he has shot in five years.

—"It is the only medicine I would give my baby," is what a mother remarked, speaking of Dr. Ball's Baby Syrup. At all drug stores, 25 cents.

—A new stock of ladies' furs, of all styles and qualities and ranging in price from $2.50 to $8 has just been received at the cheap cash store of A. A. Barker & Son.

—Excursion tickets on the Penn'a R. R. will be sold on the 24th and 25th of December and from December 30th to January 1st, good for return at any time until January 3d.

—Ladies' and misses' furs and muffs and gents' fur collars, gloves and ruffs can be bought very cheap for cash from E. C. Parrish at his little store round the corner of High street.

—A drill press in the upper shops of the Pa. R. R. Co. at Altoona went for two of the fingers of a machinist named Robert Montgomery, the other day, and nipped them off as clean as a whistle.

—Assafœtida and camphor, enclosed in a small bag and suspended from the neck, is recommended by our physicians as at least a safeguard against scarlet fever, now so prevalent in this vicinity.

—Children's furs only 75 cents per set at the popular cheap store of A. A. Barker & Son, and children's white fur caps very low at 50 cents. Just the things for Christmas gifts to the little folks.

—You needn't go to *fur*-eign parts, or even far from home, to buy furs of any kind this season, as E. C. Parrish has just received a fine lot to be sold very cheap on commission. Go and examine them.

—This day (Friday, Dec. 21st,) is the shortest of the year, but the man who has a note in bank and no money to pay it with is apt to think the day on which it becomes due is a great deal shorter.

—The Johnstown *Tribune* has succeeded in perpetrating a pun, and here it is: The Pittsburgh *Post* says it is sad news to the retailers to learn that the price of "tobies" is advancing. Tobie sure it is.

—All over the world Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup is making its way, and every place it reaches consumptive people are more seldom met. It is truly a blessing to humanity, and only costs 25 cents.

—A young man in Johnstown has been fined two dollars and costs by the Burgess for long-continued loafing about the door of the M. E. church in that place during evening services. Served him right.

—If the goose bone can be relied upon, the weather will continue mild and pleasant until about the first of February, when there will be a decided change in the programme until late in the Spring.

—Boots, shoes, hats, caps, clothing, dry goods, groceries, and indeed almost everything that the mind could conceive of, can be bought at wonderful low prices from A. A. Barker & Son, Ebensburg and Carrolltown.

—Mr. Wm. Lake, of Loretto, father of J. G. Lake, Esq., of this place, is lying at the point of death, and as he has already attained the remarkable age of 85 years his case is one which naturally leaves very little room for hope.

—The jury in the case of Peter Stoltz vs. R. G. Williams, on trial when we went to press last week, returned a verdict for plaintiff, after which Court adjourned finally, all the other cases on the list having been either settled or continued.

—The lifeless remains of Peter Shaver, a retired assistant postmaster at Mt. Union, Huntingdon county, aged about 50 years, were found in the canal at that place on Tuesday morning last, but whether it was the case of accident or suicide no one seems able to tell.

—Don't forget the shooting-match for an elegant new rifle in this place to-morrow afternoon. The proceeds are to be applied to a worthy and needy object, and all who appreciate such sport should lend a helping hand to the cause.

—Kind old Santa Claus has commissioned E. C. Parrish to act as his agent in the dissemination of nuts, candies and other delicacies among the little folks of this vicinity.

—A lad named Kelly, living near Larimer station, Westmoreland county, pointed a loaded gun at his little sister a few days ago, and probably without any evil intent, pulled the trigger and wounded her so badly that she died in an hour after.

—Miss Eliza Connell, a maiden aunt of Mr. Will. H. Connell, of this place, died at the residence of James Cooper, Esq., in Hollidaysburg, on Sunday morning last, aged about 79 years. The deceased lady was also an aunt to Mrs. Cooper.

—Scarcely an article of merchandise can be asked for either in Ebensburg or Carrolltown which A. A. Barker & Son are not prepared to furnish fully as cheap if not a little cheaper than any other dealer in northern Cambria or elsewhere.

—Wm. Long, a Huntingdon hunter who of late has much hunting done to good advantage, succeeded not long since in killing five wild turkeys at long range with a long smooth-bore, but it may not be a long time before Long does as well again.

—Our esteemed friend and patron, Mr. John Mellon, of Prince William county, Va., called to see us the other day and reported himself healthy, happy and contented away down in "Old Virginny," where he would be glad to have some of his former neighbors in this county join him.

—Mr. Henry Bender, of Carroll township, requests us to announce that he is once more in the field as a candidate for County Commissioner, and as there are three to be chosen his chances for a nomination ought to be good. He is a worthy citizen and would make a competent officer.

—County Commissioner Rees S. Lloyd, Esq., of Cambria township, had the misfortune to cut an ugly gash with a butcher knife in his left hand, between the thumb and forefinger, while engaged on Monday last in slaughtering hogs. The wound is a very severe and painful one.

—Three ducks and a gay "gobblier" have recently been stolen from the editor of the Hollidaysburg *Register*. Well into print may Over now rush with "Shame, oh! shame, where now is thy blush?"—justice, why not those scalawags crush who with our holiday poultry have made themselves flush?

—Rev. T. R. Jones, of the Congregational church in this place, who recently of his own volition lopped off $200 from his yearly salary, has just found an imitator in Rev. E. G. Cobb, a minister of the same faith in Florence, Mass., who has voluntarily reduced his income from $1,500 to $1,200.

—We are in receipt of a letter from an admiring and much admired friend in Kansas, a Republican in politics, which we doubt not was intended for the public eye, but as it is highly laudatory of the FREEMAN and exceedingly flattering to the editor, our well known modesty forbids its publication.

—Mr. Wm. Brown, of Conemaugh borough, had his left leg fractured near the ankle and an ugly gash cut in his right thigh, on Monday last, in consequence of being struck by a descending car on the incline railway leading to the gas-making department of the blooming mill at the Cambria steel works.

—A merry Christmas and a happy New Year, with health to enjoy an abundance of cheer, are the blessings we wish to each patron dear, not even excepting the ones who appear on the debit side of our books for this many a year; for they to us, the fact is quite clear, are of all patrons by far the most *dear*.

—This from the Hollidaysburg *Standard* of Wednesday last: Charles F. O'Donnell, Prothonotary-elect of Cambria county, was in town on Wednesday of last week. Like all sensible visitors he dropped in to see the *Standard* printing rooms. He is a gentleman whose presence we hope to see many times in our sanctum.

—The Gontner farm, a valuable property located about two miles from Carrolltown, will be offered at public sale on Monday, January 7th, 1878. Said farm contains 153 acres, 100 of which are cleared, and has a two story double plank house, comprising sixrooms and a kitchen, and other necessary buildings thereon erected. See posters printed at this office.

—As the time for leasing and giving in lease is near at hand once more, it is well to remind all parties interested that Geo. W. Oatman, Esq., makes a specialty of the leasing business, and that he has facilities for obtaining information as to properties and tenants that no one else in this community possesses. Give him a call.

—Jacob Reisch, of Prospect borough, whose demented wife was incarcerated for a considerable time in our county jail last summer, where she was known as "Mrs. Ribbons," had three of his fingers caught and so badly crushed in a cog-wheel at the Cambria iron works, on Tuesday last, that amputation was found necessary.

—Deputy Sheriff Shoemaker, whose little family has been and still is severely scourged by scarlet fever, and who, as will be seen by notice elsewhere, lost a very interesting, intelligent and greatly beloved daughter from that cause, is, we are told, afflicted with the same disease, as are also two others of his children. The bereaved family have our sincere condolence.

—Furbelows, strictly speaking, might very profitably be dispensed with at any time, and especially during these woful hard times, but when the price of furs gets *far below* the old rates, as is the case just now at the cheap cash stores of A. A. Barker & Son, in Ebensburg and Carrolltown, it is best for the ladies to fur-ther their comfort by donning a new set of furs.

—We are glad to learn that there was no truth in the reported injury in a coal bank at Lilly's of our friend and patron, Mr. Wm. Ryan, nor indeed of any other man, as announced by us last week on the strength of an item which appeared in the Johnstown *Tribune*. Mr. Ryan was injured in a mine at that place some three years ago, since when he has followed other pursuits than coal mining.

—We learn from the Altoona *Mirror* that S. M. Woodcock, Esq., of that city, has purchased most of the Gen. B. F. Bell coal and timber land in Blair and Cambria counties, and that competent experts estimate the coal underlying said tracts at six millions of tons and the timber with which they are covered at twenty millions of feet, besides iron ore, plumbago, fire clay, etc., almost beyond computation.

—Messrs. Lemmon & Murray have just received an elegant assortment of family and pocket Bibles, prayer and hymn books, toy books, photograph albums, jewelry, and various other articles well suited for holiday gifts, besides having on hand a good supply of pills and other physics that will probably come into play after the holiday feastings are over—all of which will be sold at the very lowest cash prices.

—A skeleton key, made of wire, was found secreted in the cap of George Townsend, one of the prisoners taken to the penitentiary on Wednesday last. The discovery was made while the prisoners were being searched preparatory to their removal from the jail in this place, and the key was no doubt intended as it was well fitted to free him and perhaps one or more of his associates from their handcuffs.

—Making maple molasses in the month of December is something, we venture to say, that was never before heard of in this region, though considering the mild weather now prevailing it should stagger no one to believe that a gentleman residing near Nicktown, in Barr township, and who was in this place yesterday, actually succeeded in manufacturing quite a quantity of the saccharine commodity during the present week.

—Matthew, youngest son of Mr. Geo. C. K. Zahm, of this place, is seriously ill with scarlet fever though his case is by no means hopeless. Several other children in and about town, among whom it is a mistake to include any of the editor's family, reports to the contrary notwithstanding, are also afflicted with the same disease, but so far as we have learned the malady is not of a dangerous type, young Zahm's case perhaps excepted.

—Alex. M'Clelland, of Antis township, Blair county, attempted to jump from a moving freight train near Birmingham on Monday of last week, but missed his footing and fell under the wheels, several of which passed over his legs and crushed them in such a fearful manner that they had to be amputated. The unfortunate man, who has a wife and three children, was still living at latest accounts, but his injuries, it was thought, would prove fatal.

—George Townsend, Frank Goughnour, Henry Lonier and Wm. Vannatt, the four convicts sentenced in our county court on Monday night of last week—the two first named for ten years and six months each, for arson and for burglary and larceny, respectively, and the other two for one year and six months and one year and three months for larceny and bigamy—were taken to the Western Penitentiary on Wednesday last by Sheriff Ryan and Deputy Sheriff McAnany.

—We have the copy for a flaming advertisement, two columns in width and a half column in length, setting forth the great advantages to be derived from buying goods at the cheapest of cheap cash stores, that of A. A. Barker & Son, Carrolltown, but as we did not have time to put it in type we are oblized to withhold it until the beginning of the new year. In the meantime our readers can save money, sure pop, by dealing with A. A. Barker & Son, Ebensburg and Carrolltown.

—No better time than next week, when excursion tickets will be issued on the Pa. R. R., could be selected for a visit to Johnstown, and no better place to call when you get there, provided of course you wish to replenish your wardrobe, can be found than Jas. J. Murphy's Star Clothing Hall, 109 Clinton street, where a large and elegant stock of clothing in all styles, shades, sizes and textures is silently appealing to passers-by to drop in and take their choice at prices which all will admit are remarkably low even for these awful hard times.

—Our ulster's gone, that good old coat—we ne'er shall see it more; we used to wear it, rain or shine, all buttoned up before; but then we know what can be done, and that we'll quickly do, to Godfrey Wolff we'll forthwith run and buy another neat and new; for folly 'tis to do without what comfort doth demand, so long as Wolff, without a doubt, keeps the best of clothing in the land,—and sells it too at prices low a fact quite plain to all who in summer's shine or winter's snow on Godfrey Wolff doth call. Store on Twelfth street, next door to postoffice, Altoona.

—Mince, sisters, mince—mince with care, see that your apples you nicely pare; flavor with spices fragrant and rare, put in your brandy, a goodly share; then you will have a pie fit for an epiquaire. And when all this is done, with a light heart repair to the cheapest cash store you can find anywhere, which is the one, as all folks are fully aware, that by Myers & Lloyd is kept on the square, which means that all those who wisely go there to buy all they need to eat or to wear, get the worth of their money with something to spare. Another choice lot of ladies' cloth sacques just received and for sale very cheap.

—We are indebted to the New York Catholic Publication Society for a copy of the Illustrated Catholic Family Almanac for 1878. It is neatly and tastefully printed and bound and contains 144 pages replete with facts and information interesting and useful to every Catholic. The present issue contains well executed portraits of several distinguished prelates of the Church, with biographical sketches, among which are the late Archbishop Bayley, Rev. John McElroy, and Von Ketteler, late Bishop of Mavence, who was the most learned and profound theologian in Germany, if not in Europe.

—The letter from Clarion county, receipt of which was acknowledged by us last week, is so long drawn out that we have found it impossible to make room for it this week without intruding on our usual variety, but as it is for the most part of a historical and descriptive character, it will bear keeping until a more auspicious time. From it we learn that Messrs. J. T. Hutchinson and Frank C. Platt, formerly of this place, are, if reports be true, about to embark in the oil producing business, and having seen the latter gentleman engaged a few days ago in the erection of a derrick, our correspondent thinks it is natural enough to conclude that operations will begin at once. If so, we join with the writer in hoping that they may never get "off the belt."

—Rev. John N. McGonigle, recently of this place, met with a grand reception on Friday evening last, on the occasion of his permanent removal to Parker, Pa., for the purpose of assuming pastoral charge of the Presbyterian church in that city. The reception took place at the parsonage, and as we learn from the Parker *Dispatch*, was an exceedingly pleasant and well managed affair, music, sociability and choice refreshments being the leading attractions of the occasion. After all was over at the house the entire party repaired to the church, where the choir sang a voluntary, which was followed by a neat speech—and the presentation of a purse containing $200 to the Rev. gentleman, who responded in fitting terms, the whole concluding with the benediction, which was pronounced by Rev. Lyttle.

—We congratulate Mr. Samuel A. Shoemaker, of Carroll township, on having secured a comfortable "posish" under the government, as clerk, we believe, to his brother-in-law, Major Charles Wingard, who for many years has been a paymaster in the army, with his headquarters until recently in San Francisco, from whence he was transferred to Washington city, a severe injury he met with some time since having incapacitated him for the more arduous outpost duties. The position secured by Mr. Shoemaker is said to be worth $1,200 per year, with boarding, clothing and a horse or two for his own exclusive use thrown in. This is certainly a "fat take" for these woful hard times, and we know of none more deserving or more likely to merit the gift of long continuance than our friend Samuel, who, we are sure, will do full justice to his "Uncle Samuel" in the position assigned him.

—The many friends in this locality of Rev. Father Christy, who won the title of "fighting chaplain" by having so faithfully and unselfishly served his country and his comrades during the late civil war, and who was born and reared in this county and resided for several years in Ebensburg, will be sorry to learn that he is lying very dangerously ill at his home in Columbus, Ohio, with little or no hope for his recovery. The old army disease with which he so long and patiently suffered while in our midst seems to be getting in its work at last, and if death has not already intervened the probabilities are that he will not long survive. At least such is our information, though we trust that a change for the better will speedily take place. His sister, Mrs. W. J. Bonner, and other relatives from this county, have gone to what there is reason to fear is in reality his death-bed, though we are sure that no one who knows and appreciates him for his greatness of heart and his eloquence of tongue will fail to offer up a prayer for his restoration once more to robust health.

—While a young man named Frank Fagan, son of Mrs. Jeremiah Fagan, of the West Ward, was riding a colt belonging to Mr. Isaac Crawford, by whom he is employed, on last Sunday afternoon, and while near the residence of Mr. Morgan Hughes, on the stone pike, immediately west of town, he suddenly became aware of the fact that the saddle was turning under him, whereupon he threw his arms around the horse's neck in order to prevent himself from falling, when the animal took fright and ran up against a tree, the result of which was that young Fagan was pecipitated to the ground, fracturing his right leg between the knee and ankle and also splitting the bone in two places. When he fell his foot remained fast in the stirrup, but it is not true, as the *Tribune* has it, that he was dragged by the colt, the fact being that the girth broke and the saddle came off as a consequence. The injured lad was picked up by his mother, who lives near the scene, and a gentleman named James, by whom he was carried home, where his injuries were promptly attended to and he is now doing as well as could be expected.

Great Clearance Sale.

Bargains in late dress novelties at

HUGUS & HACKE'S

Fifth avenue and Market street,

Pittsburgh.

—An immense stock of candies, nuts, dried and canned fruits, sweetmeats, etc., of every description, just received at the little big store of E. C. Parrish, on High street.

A Rare Chance

For the holidays—Hugus & Hacke's great closing out sale, Fifth avenue and Market street, Pittsburgh.

THE RAILROAD IN BRAZIL AND MESSRS. P. & T. COLLINS.—The Philadelphia *Times* of Friday last furnishes the subjoined statement in reference to the preparatory steps taken by the Messrs. Collins for commencing work on their extensive railroad contract in Brazil. We will state here that the distance from Para, at the mouth of the Amazon, to the mouth of the Madeira, is about 960 miles, and the distance up that river where the road will begin is about 480 miles, making almost 1,400 miles from the entrance of the Amazon into the Atlantic to the rapids or falls of the Madeira, around which the proposed railway of 180 miles will be constructed. The *Times* says:

Since the $6,000,000 contract for the construction of the Madeira and Mamore railroad, a line which is to be one hundred and eighty miles long, running around the rapids of the Madeira river, and thus opening, by way of that river and the Amazon, into which it empties, a channel for trade with Bolivia, was awarded, about a month ago, to Messrs. P. & T. Collins, of this city, that firm has been almost constantly besieged by applicants for something to do in the projected work, and has been obliged to turn away, on an average, about one hundred of them every day. The selection of the clerical and laboring forces is finished, and the Messrs. Collins have chartered the steamship Mercedita, by which to send down to the Falls of St. Anthony, which marks the northern end of the Madeira rapids, their employes and sufficient supplies for three months. The Mercedita is 1,050 tons burthen and owned by Americans in New York. She is to arrive here from that city and begin loading on next Thursday.

In addition to six hundred tons of railroad iron and two hundred tons of tools and general merchandise, including provisions for the employes, the vessel is to take out an engineer corps of fifty-one men; fifty mechanics, mostly Philadelphians; one hundred axemen, or pioneers, who are to erect the necessary buildings and clear the way for the progress of constructors, and who are from nearly all sections of the country, and one hundred colored men, selected in Richmond and other parts of Virginia, because in those places there are large numbers of negroes accustomed to the kind of work for which these are needed—making ties and assisting the pioneers.

The Mercedita is to take out also three hundred and fifty tons of coal, which will last her until she reaches Para, on her return from the Falls of St. Anthony. Yesterday the Messrs. Collins sent by a small steamer going to Brazil for outfits, three hundred and fifty tons of coal, to be left at Para and taken in by the Mercedita for her homeward trip. Coal in Brazil costs $15 per ton, but as it can be bought here for $2.50, and the freight on it to Para being only $5, the Messrs. Collins, by their arrangement, save $7.50 per ton. The Mercedita will sail on the 24th or 25th of this month, and her voyage is to last sixty days. She is to bring back to Philadelphia coffee, rubber and other articles from Brazil, and sugar from the Island of St. Thomas.

Each month until the railroad is completed a steamer will leave this city, taking to the scene of operations supplies like those to go down by the Mercedita, and will bring back South American products. The second steamer is to start on the 15th of January, and Mr. Thomas Collins, one of the contracting firm, will go with her. At the Falls of St. Anthony is a little town of about one hundred inhabitants, and there the headquarters of the works are to be established in a commodious building, which is to be erected and neatly fitted up as soon as possible after the arrival of the little army of constructors. The work of building the road will begin at the Falls and proceed up the river. At the headquarters will be stationed the superintendents, engineers, clerks, Brazilian custom officers and others, together with the officers of a regiment of soldiers which is to be provided by Dom Pedro for the protection of the workmen in the event of interference by natives or others.

THE HOLIDAYS AT OAK HALL.—With an experience of seventeen years in providing the public with clothes, Wanamaker & Brown are far beyond the possibility of mistake in preparing exactly what is wanted. Their popular resort has now over a million dollars' worth of well-made and well-assorted clothing and furnishing goods, and as the prices are all marked down from ten to thirty per cent., there is a tremendous rush of buyers.

The great Forty Days' Sale now going on at Oak Hall is *not* the closing out of a broken lot of winter goods. Instead of waiting till after New Year to put prices down, Wanamaker & Brown reduced everything in their fresh and unbroken stock, shortly after the middle of November, thus affording the public ample opportunity for selection from the largest and most varied stock ever offered in Philadelphia. The people have shown their appreciation of this enterprise by coming in even greater throngs than ever before, and availing themselves of the rare opportunities for bargains which the present great sale affords.

In addition to the immense business carried on at Oak Hall in selling to people who come in person to buy, a large force is kept busy in attending to the "mail order" department. This is specially worthy the attention of those of our readers who cannot make it convenient to go to Philadelphia. They may write for samples of goods and directions for self-measurement, with the certainty that their orders will be as accurately filled, and their interests as carefully guarded, as if they were personally present.

The well-established reputation of Oak Hall is such that people know they will get the worth of their money in dealing there. Oak Hall clothes make capital Christmas presents.

IMPORTANT DECREE.—The following is the full and corrected decree of the District Court of the United States, in the proceedings in bankruptcy against Wm. M. Lloyd to which we briefly referred two weeks ago. This decree has been appealed from by Lloyd, and has yet to be argued before the U. S. Circuit Court at Pittsburgh and a final decision rendered. Following is the decree:

Now, December 12, 1877, the Court having computed the aggregate indebtedness of all amounts proveable against the bankrupt, and the number of creditors and the number of petitioning creditors; and having computed the amount and value of debts held by the petitioning creditors, it is ascertained that the total amount of provable debts is $695,312.25; that the entire number of creditors having provable debts of over $250 in amount is seven hundred and eight; and of these three hundred have joined in the petition, and that they hold provable debts over two hundred and fifty dollars in value, to the amount of $316,193.29. One-fourth in number or one hundred and seventy-seven creditors holding one-third of the indebtedness, or $2,8,170.75, are sufficient to constitute a legal quorum.

It is, therefore, adjudged and decided that a legal quorum of one-fourth in number of creditors, holding provable debts over two hundred and fifty dollars in value, to the amount of one-third of the aggregate indebtedness, provable against the bankrupt, have joined in the petition for his adjudication.

Exceptions tenth, eleventh, twelfth, twenty-second and twenty-third of the exceptions filed July 8, 1876, to the Register's original report, finding a quorum, are overruled. The other exceptions to said report, were disposed of in opinion filed February 21, 1877. *Per curiam.*

PETROLEUM CENTRE, Pa., Oct. 30, 1874.—My family has received more benefit from E. K. Thompson's Sweet Worm Powders, than all the medicine ever used in my house. My wife for six months doctored with the best physicians I could find in the country, but with no benefit. She would be taken with a pain in the pit of the stomach, and faint almost away. Her hands and feet would become cold, her heart palpitate, and often we thought she would die before we could restore her by using hot draughts and applications. I was finally recommended to try your Sweet Worm Powders, three doses of which had an astonishing effect, and being followed up a few days after relieved her of all pain and sickness; and if my testimony can be of any use, am happy to give it in favor of the Sweet Worm Powders as a most wonderful medicine. Any one wishing to know the full facts, please address as below.

S. REYNOLDS, Justice of the Peace.

Prepared by E. K. Thompson, Titusville, Pa., and sold by Lemmon & Murray, Ebensburg. Price, 25 cents per bottle.

FRUIT CAKE.—To three-quarters pound of butter add one and a half pounds of yellow sugar, yolks of six eggs, well beaten, one-half cup of molasses, one-half cup of sweet milk, one grated nutmeg, one teaspoonful each of ground cinnamon, cloves and allspice, the whites of six eggs, well beaten, and one pound of flour, having in it one and a half measures Banner Baking Powder; stir in the fruit just before baking, consisting of one pound of raisins, two pounds currants, and one-half pound citron, all well dredged with flour; bake from three to four hours. Each can of Banner Baking Powder contains a measure to use instead of a spoon. Ask your grocer for the Banner Baking Powder, and take no other.

—This is not Florida, but it is a wonderful mild day for December, the 21st day.

NOBBY BUILDING!

To secure the above give our

NEW CHEAP CASH STORE

A CALL BEFORE BUYING ELSEWHERE.

WE SELL THE BEST OF GOODS CHEAPER

than you can buy them in Altoona or Johnstown, and as we have the

LARGEST and HANDSOMEST STOCK

EVER BROUGHT TO NORTHERN CAMBRIA, WE CAN SUIT ALL PARTIES.

MAUCHER & WEAKLAN,

CARROLLTOWN, PA.

Store in Dr. MAUCHER'S New Building.

Local Correspondence.

FALLEN TIMBER, Dec. 14, 1877.

DEAR FREEMAN—Instances of internal improvement are so rare in this locality that it is with pleasure I note the removal of our enterprising neighbors, the Gates Brothers, to their log job, which they now have under full headway, having completed all the buildings necessary for an extensive log camp, well adapted for winter operations. They have already employed some twenty five hands, including Henry Shomo's chopping crew, all of whom are stout, moral and temperate young men, who are rather a rarity in lumber camps. Messrs. Gates has also supplied their larder with the best the market affords and having secured the services of Mr. S. S. Rice as chief cook, their table will doubtless be fit for a prince to dine at, while their bedding and other arrangements are equally admirable. Henry Shomo will take charge of the cutting department, having secured M. J. Noel and J. B. McManamy as choppers, and H. A. Gates and Wm. Plunket as sawyers; and what they do not know about cutting logs they are willing to learn. In this connection we are informed that a crew of six men cut in five days seven hundred logs, or 175,000 feet. This is considered by old loginen mighty rapid work.

The citizens of this vicinity have been annoyed for some time past by midnight marauders engaged in robbing spring houses and chicken coops. Too much praise could not be bestowed upon the man who would succeed in ferreting out this apparently well organized gang of thieves, one of whom was seen emerging from the back yard of a neighbor here not long since with several chickens in his possession, and had not the gentleman's revolver missed fire we would probably have found out who he was.

Well, for a change in the subject, our schools are progressing finely and the "knights of the birch" are training the young ideas how to shoot as fast as could be expected. Some of our young ladies will sit up at night to bake beans and—but fearing that I have already intruded on your time and space, I will close for the present. GREENHORN.

CARROLLTOWN, PA., Dec. 18, 1877.

DEAR FREEMAN—Notwithstanding that King Winter makes very slow advance upon us this year, the good people of our section are busy preparing for the siege, and are determined that the fate of Plevna shall not overtake them, nor hunger even intrude itself into our midst, as is fully attested by the dying squeals of corn-fed porkers and the daily traffic in the raw material observable on our streets, as well as by numerous fairy like strings of luscious sausages and visions of huge buckwheat cakes. In fact, everybody appears to be butchering, but one of the toughest stories in the butchering line heard for many a day was told us quite recently, and as the gentleman who unravels the tale stands in the matter of relationship to Julius Cæsar's wife, above suspicion, I give you the "facts" as related to me. My fat and good natured informant avers that a gentleman living not a thousand miles from the residence of Hon. J. J. Thomas called upon some of his neighbors last week to assist him in butchering. Some seven or eight willing hands, or rather seven or eight willing men with ready hands, responded to the call, and in a brief time the big porker was shot. The aim not being fatal, a second and third shot was fired, when finally his hogship dropped. The hired man then proceeded to stab him four or five times, and all hands made ready for the scraping, when, lo and behold! Mr. Hog got up and started for a ravine in the neighborhood. The goodly company followed him and again the porker was felled by a blow from an axe. To make sure of the work this time a second blow was given, and the party made ready to drag the hog to the scalding tub. Before the rope could be attached to his swineship's leg, however, he managed to get on his feet once more and this time headed for the pig sty where he was once more overhauled and stunned by several well-directed blows, after which he was dragged off by the united efforts of the hired man, boy and neighbors, and finally scalded to death. Yours, &c. VERITY.

TEITELBAUM & BRO.—We need scarcely invite attention to the mammoth advertisement of this enterprising Carrolltown firm, as it is big enough to speak for itself, but it is well to note what they propose to do for their customers, as plainly and temptingly set forth in the following partial list of

WONDERFUL LOW PRICES.

Men's All-Wool Cassimere Suits	$8.00	and up.
" " Pants	2.25	" "
Boys' " Suits	4.00	" "
Men's Hats	60	" "
" Boots	2.00	" "
Women's Shoes	1.00	" "
Misses' "	50	" "
Woolen Blankets	1.50	per p'r.
Horse "	1.25	" "
Waterproof Cloth, 63 inches wide	65	" "
Cashmeres	35	per y'd.
Alpacas (all colors)	18	" "
Best Washington Prints	5	" "
Lancaster Ginghams	8	" "
Muslins (bleached and unbleached)	5	" "
Ticking for overalls	15	" "

ASTONISHING SUCCESS.—It is the duty of every person who has used BOSHEE'S GERMAN SYRUP to let its wonderful qualities be known to their friends in curing Consumption, severe Coughs, Croup, Asthma, Pneumonia, and in fact all throat and lung diseases. No person can use it without immediate relief. Three doses will relieve any case, and we consider it the duty of all Druggists to recommend it to the poor dying consumptive, at least to try one bottle, as 40,000 dozen bottles were sold last year, and no one case where it failed was reported. Such a medicine as the GERMAN SYRUP cannot be too widely known. Ask your Druggist about it. Sample Bottles to try sold at 10 cents. Regular size 75 cents. For sale by Lemmon & Murray, Ebensburg, and Woleslagle & Son, Wilmore.

Seal Sacques, Muffs and Hats.

Finest importations at real bargains.

HUGUS & HACKE'S

Great Clearance Sale,

Fifth avenue and Market street,

Pittsburgh.

Important Closing Sale.

Bargains in Black and Colored Silks.

HUGUS & HACKE,

Fifth avenue and Market street,

Pittsburgh.

HYMENEAL.

MILLS—TIBBOTT.—Married, at the Congregational church in this place, on Thursday evening, Dec. 13, 1877, by Rev. T. R. Jones, Mr. JOB MILLS, of Columbus, Ohio, and Miss MARY TIBBOTT, of Ebensburg.

This is the first wedding, we believe, that has ever occurred in a Protestant church in this place, and as it is a new departure well worthy of commendation, the happy couple not only deserve to be congratulated on the joyful event itself, but are well worthy of the highest praise for having set an example that should henceforth be imitated by all who wish to assume the cares and enjoy the felicities of married life. Apart from all this, however, the thanks and good wishes of the editor and his family, as well as of the employes of the office, are due and hereby tendered to the wedded pair for a large and luscious cake, to which ample justice was done by all concerned. May peace and contentment abide with them for many long years to come, and when at last they are summoned from time to eternity, may they be fully prepared to exchange the fleeting joys of earth for the never-ending felicities of a better and brighter world. So mote it be.

OBITUARY.

SHOEMAKER.—Died, in this place, on Saturday, Dec. 15, 1877, GERTRUDE, eldest daughter of H. A. and Lidie Shoemaker, aged 7 years, 9 months and 24 days.

O'KEEFE.—Died, at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. Edward Lynch, in Summerhill township, on Sunday evening, Dec. 9, 1877, Mrs. BRIDGET, relict of Mr. Timothy O'Keefe, late of No. 2, Washington township, this county, aged about 72 years.

The deceased was a native of County Derry, Ireland. She was at all times a practical Catholic, and was greatly beloved by all who knew her. Her last painful illness was borne with Christian fortitude, strengthened by the last rites of the Church of which she was a devout member. Her mortal remains were interred in the Catholic cemetery at Wilmore on Wednesday following, after a solemn Requiem Mass had been celebrated and a touching tribute to her virtues pronounced by Father McHugh, which was listened to with deep reverence as well as consolation by her sorrowing friends and relatives. May she rest in peace, Amen.

STADER.—Died, in Latrobe, Pa., on Saturday, Dec. 8, 1877, EDWARD GEORGE, son of F. J. and M. A. Stader, aged 3 years and 9 months.

ESTRAY.—Came to the premises of the subscriber in Gallitzin township, on the first day of November last, a red heifer, about two years old. The owner is hereby notified to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take her away, otherwise she will be sold as the law directs. JAMES McCLOSKEY.

December 21, 1877.-3t.

NOTICE.—All persons are hereby cautioned against harboring or trusting on my account my son JOHN GRAFF, aged between 17 and 18 years, who has left home without just cause or provocation, as I am determined to pay no debts he may contract unless compelled to do so by law. SEBASTIAN GRAFF.

Barr Twp., Dec. 21, 1877.-3t.*

ESTRAY.—Came to the premises of the undersigned in Tunnelhill borough, on or about the 5th of the present month, a white and red steer, about eighteen months or thereabouts. The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take her away; failing in which she will be disposed of according to law. JOHN PORTER.

Tunnelhill, Dec. 21, 1877.-3t.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Estate of JOHN HAMMAN, dec'd.

Letters of administration on the estate of said decedent, late of Allegheny twp., have been granted to the undersigned, who hereby gives notice to all persons indebted to said estate that payment must be made without delay, and those having claims against the same will present them properly authenticated for settlement.

ADAM HAMMAN, Administrator.

Allegheny Twp., Dec. 21, 1877.-6t.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE!—Having been appointed Auditor by the Orphans' Court of Cambria county to report distribution of the funds in the hands of Jacob Hoover, executor of Thomas Adams (of Joseph), late of Clearfield township, deceased, to and among the parties entitled thereto, notice is hereby given to all parties interested that I will attend to the duties of said appointment, at my office in Ebensburg, on Tuesday, the 15th, 1878, at 2 o'clock, P. M., when and where all parties interested may attend if they see proper.

M. E. BUCKLEY, Auditor.

December 21, 1877.-3t.

Administrators' Sale of Real Estate!

BY virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court of Cambria county, the subscribers will offer at public sale, on the premises in Cambria township,

On TUESDAY, JANUARY 22d, 1878,

at 2 o'clock, P. M., the following described real estate, known as the HALFWAY HOUSE, of which Clement Fresh died seized, to wit:

All that certain Piece or Parcel of Land

situate in said township, along the Ebensburg and Carrolltown plank road, adjoining land of Edward Thomas, Robert Edwards, Jacob Barker, Agnes Barker and others, containing **One Hundred and Twenty five

To Ascertain the Weight of Live Cattle.

It is often important for those who are not experienced judges by the eye to have some means besides the scales of ascertaining the weight of cattle while living, and by following these approved directions this can be done within a mere trifle.

Take a string, put it around the breast, stand square just behind the shoulder blade; measure on a foot rule the feet and inches the animal is in circumference; this is called the girth; then with the string measure from the bone of the tale which plumbs the line with the hinder part of the buttock; direct the line along the back to the fore part of the shoulder blade; take the dimensions on the foot rule as before, which is the length; and work the figures in the following manner: Girth of the bullock, say six feet four inches; length five feet three inches; which multiplied together make 31 square superficial feet; and that multiplied by 23 (the number of pounds allowed to each superficial foot of cattle measuring less than seven and more than five feet in girth), making 713 pounds. Where the animal measures less than nine and more than seven in girth, 31 is the number of pounds in each superficial foot. Again suppose a pig or any small beast should measure two feet in girth, and two along the back which multiplied together, make four square feet; that multiplied by 11, the number of pounds allowed each square foot of cattle measuring less than three feet in girth, makes 44 pounds. Again suppose a calf, a sheep, &c., should measure four feet six inches in girth, and three feet nine inches in length, which multiplied together make 15¼ square feet; that multiplied by 16 the number of pounds allowed to all cattle measuring less than five feet and more than three in girth, makes 265 pounds. The dimensions of the girth and length of back in cattle, sheep, calves, or hogs may be as exactly taken this way as it is at all necessary for any computation or any valuation of stock, and will answer exactly to the four quarters, sinking the offal, a sum which every man who can get even a bit of chalk can easily figure.—*Rural New Yorker.*

TIN FROM EARLY BRITAIN.—The amount of tin required in ancient times, when Egypt, Greece and Italy were, one after another, in the full glow of their prosperity, must have been great. During preceding times—during what is called the bronze age—we may pass over all inquiry about the use of it, as bronze was then confined, probably, to the making of small ornaments or weapons for the chase of war. But when, not to speak of all kinds of vessels for domestic use, larger works were undertaken, ranging in size from the Colossus of Rhodes down to a statuette for a banqueting room, and in number reaching to the extraordinary amount of 3,000 statues in more than one single town in Greece, the demand for tin must have been enormous, for, as Mr. Fortnum tells us in his excellent introduction to the catalogue of bronzes in the South Kensington museum, "the general result of analyses of several examples of Greek and Roman bronze has shown a composition of 88 or 90 parts of copper to 12 or 10 of tin." * * * There seems to be little doubt that the chief district whence the Phœnicians got their tin in Britian, lay in the neighborhood of Mount's bay, in the country between Truro and the Land's End. From a well known passage in Strabo it would seem that the tin in his time after being melted and refined, was carried to St. Michael's Mount, there to be purchased by the foreign merchants, who then carried it to the neighboring continent and conveyed it "across Gaul for about 30 days to the outlet of the river Rhone."—*The Athenæum.*

WHAT A BOY DID.—The steam-engine had now assumed a form that somewhat resembles the modern machine. An important defect still existed in the necessity of keeping an attendant by the engine to open and shut the cocks. A bright boy, however—Humphrey Potter—to whom was assigned this duty on a Newcomen engine in 1831, contrived what he called a *scoggan*—a catch rigged with a cord from the beam overhead—which performed the work for him. The boy, thus making the operation of the valve-gear automatic, increased the speed of the engine to 15 or 16 strokes a minute, and gave it a regularity and certainty of action that could only be obtained by such an adjustment of its valves. This ingenious young mechanic afterwards became a skilful workman and an excellent engineer, and went abroad on the Continent, where he erected several fine engines. Potter's rude valve gear was soon improved by Henry Beighton, and the new device was applied to an engine which that talented engineer erected at Newcastle on-Tyne in 1818, in which engine he substituted substantial materials for Potter's unmechanical arrangement of cords.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

SYSTEMATIC GEESE.—In Maine huge flocks of geese feed by day in the fields, with only a little boy to attend upon them, returning home under his charge in the evening. As they march down the streets, they drop off in detachments without confusion, and proceed soberly, of their own accord, to the house where they lodge.

BESMEAR eggs well with any soft, clean grease, and pack them in bran with the small end down, and keep in a cool place, and your eggs will come in the spring as nice and fresh as laid eggs.

STILL IN THE FIELD, AND THE BARS DOWN!

When You Visit Carrolltown,

Which you should do if for no other purpose than to secure big bargains at the

PEOPLE'S CHEAP CASH STORE!

BE SURE TO CALL BEFORE GOING ELSEWHERE ON

S. TEITELBAUM & BRO.,

WHO HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM THE EASTERN CITIES WITH A LARGE STOCK OF

ELEGANT NEW GOODS FOR FALL SALES!

WHICH THEY HAVE OPENED THIS WEEK AND ARE NOW OFFERING AT

PRICES NEVER BEFORE TOUCHED!

REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD DEAL WITH US:

We bought $10,000 worth of Goods for $5,000 cash from the stock of a Wholesale House in New York city which was closed out at Assignee's sale, and are determined to give the people a remedy for hard times by selling them Goods 35 per cent. cheaper than they have ever before or can now buy elsewhere.

CALL AND SEE OUR GOODS,

AND EXAMINE OUR PRICES.

As we have the largest assortment and greatest variety in the county, and are prepared to give BETTER BARGAINS than can be obtained at any other establishment.

S. TEITELBAUM & BROTHER,

CARROLLTOWN, CAMBRIA CO., PA.

Oct. 5, 1877.—3m.

GEIS, FOSTER & QUINN,

113 and 115 Clinton Street, Johnstown,

ALWAYS HAVE THE

Largest, Best and Cheapest

Stock of Dry Goods, Notions, Millinery, Carpets, Oil Cloths, &c., to be found in Cambria county.

[2-4.] ☞ Don't forget the number and street. [tf.]

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES!

HARDWARE,

CUTLERY, Etc.,

AT MUCH LESS THAN COST.

Preparatory to tearing down and rebuilding his extensive Store Room,

Geo. Huntley

WILL DISPOSE OF HIS

Entire Stock of GOODS,

CONSISTING PRINCIPALL OF

Builders' HARDWARE,

Table and Pocket Cutlery,

IRON, NAILS, GLASS, GLASSWARE, LAMPS, LAMP CHIMNEYS, STOVES, TINWARE, HORSE RAKES, HARVEST'G TOOLS, GRINDSTONES, HOES, SHOVELS, SPADES, PUMPS AND TUBING, BLANCHARD CHURNS, &c.

AT LESS THAN COST,

—FOR—

CASH AND CASH ONLY!

☞ I have also on hand a few good **Mowing Machines**, which I will sell at from $20 to $30 less than cost, and am agent for the great AMERICAN SAW GUMMER, (the only changable self-feed Gummer in the world,) which I will sell very low for cash.

Now is the Time to Secure Bargains

BY BUYING A

Big Lot of Goods for Very Little Money!

NOTICE!

☞ *All persons knowing themselves indebted to me are earnestly requested to come forward without delay and settle their respective accounts, either by note or cash, and thereby save costs, as I must have my books closed in the shortest time possible.*

Geo. Huntley,

HIGH STREET, EBENSBURG, PA.

Ebensburg INSURANCE AGENCY.

T. W. DICK,

Gen'l Insurance Agent,

EBENSBURG, PA.

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Ebensburg, Sept. 22, 1876 -1y.*

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THE EBENSBURG WOOLEN COMPANY is amply prepared to manufacture to order or exchange Goods of its own make for WOOL, which will be taken at the highest market price, and for the gathering of which wagons will soon be sent to the various sections of the county. The quality of the goods made by us is too well known to need recommendation, and as we are now running our Factory by STEAM POWER, there will be no delay in the manufacture of wool sent or bro't to us for that purpose.

P. S.—Weaving, Carding, Fulling and Dyeing promptly attended to in a workmanlike manner and at the lowest possible rates.

Ebensburg, May 11, 1877.-tf.

PARKE'S MARBLE WORKS

139 Franklin Street, Johnstown.

MONUMENTS, HEAD and TOMB-STONES, COUNTER and CABINET SLABS, MANTELS, &c., manufactured of the very best Italian and American Marbles. Entire satisfaction guaranteed in price, design and character of work.

☞ Orders respectfully solicited and promptly filled at the very lowest cash rates. Try me.

April 24, 1873.-tf. JOHN PARKE.

JAMES WILKINSON.....H. T. O'FRIEL

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A. M. KEIM, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, Ebensburg, Pa. Office recently occupied by Dr. J. J. Oatman, two doors west of Blair House, High st., where night calls can be made. Consultations in German as well as English. [9-5,'77.-1y.]

HINTS TO YOUNG HOUSE-KEEPERS.—After the regular fall cleaning is done, you will want to polish up your furniture. Bather than use furniture polishes, you will get more satisfaction if you will wash off the articles you wish to clean with a sponge dipped in cold water; then rub dry with a soft flannel cloth, after which polish with a little linseed oil (not boiled) on a rag, rubbing off well afterward with a soft cloth. The white spots caused by dropping cologne may be removed by touching them with a cloth wet with cologne or alcohol, and immediately after with the linseed oil. We would advise you not to clean all your furniture at once, and so tire yourself out, but to do one or two pieces each day. It is very laborious work, and unless you limit yourselves (that is if you undertake to do it without help) you will be tempted to do more than you can accomplish well, and more than your strength will permit; and you have no more right to waste your strength than your substance.

If your window panes have stubborn spots of paint on them which annoy you, and which you have not been able to remove, take a nickel penny, lay it flat on the glass, and rub the offending spots; and they will quickly disappear. If the glass is much spotted, this too can be done gradually. A few moments each morning devoted to this purpose will soon leave your windows clear and bright.

AN INSTANCE OF CANINE SAGACITY.—In France it is the custom for the young folks to put their shoes in the chimney on Christmas Eve, ready for the good things which Santa Klaus will bring them. Last Christmas Eve, at a gentleman's house, just before going to bed all the young people pulled off their shoes and carefully deposited them in the fireplace. A pet dog who had been quietly watching the proceedings, as soon as the shoes were all placed, wriggled himself out of his collar, and, taking it up in his mouth, went and laid it down beside the shoes, and then departed, looking upon his part of the performance with evident satisfaction.

HOW TO CURE STAMMERING.—Draw a long breath and divide the sentence you wish to speak into syllables, and make a motion for each syllable by bringing the index finger and thumb of the right hand close together. Have confidence in yourself and do not be embarrassed in the presence of strangers. Read some good poetical work like Milton's Paradise Lost or Pope's Homer's Iliad slowly, taking care to draw a full breath at the end of each second line.

A VALUABLE TABLE FOR FARMERS.—The following table contains the number of pounds in a bushel of the different articles named: Of bran, 12 pounds; blue grass, 14; shorts, 18; dried apples, 25; oats, 32; dried peaches, 33; hemp seed, 44; timothy seed, 45; castor beans, 46; barley, 48; flax seed, 56; rye, 56; shelled corn, 56; onions, 57; wheat, 60; clover seed, 60; mineral coal, 70; salt, 75; corn on cob, 75.

A BUTTER PRODUCING TREE.—A tree called the butter-nut tree is found on the banks of the Niger, in Africa. From it excellent butter is obtained. The fruit somewhat resembles the Spanish olive. The kernel of the fruit is boiled, and the butter thus obtained is said to be whiter, firmer, and of a richer flavor than is that from a cow, besides which it will keep a year without salt.

REFRESHING DRINK IN FEVERS.—Boil one and a half ounces of tamarinds with two ounces stoned raisins and three ounces of cranberries, all in three pints of water until two pints remain. Strain and add a small piece of fresh lemon peel, which should be removed in 30 minutes.

TO PURIFY WATER.—Sprinkle a little powdered alum in the water and in a few hours all impurities will be precipitated to the bottom, leaving the water pure and clear as spring water.

1878.

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POLITICAL—THE WEEKLY POST will maintain the fundamental principles of Democracy and give to the Democratic organization and candidates a hearty and unflinching support, as the best and in fact only way to secure reform in government and the maintenance of the rights of the people and the States. Hereafter the history of the country promises to be the history of the Democratic party; but a brief time will elapse and the control of the Federal and State governments in all their branches will pass into its hands. THE POST will be a faithful guardian and defender of the honor and integrity of the party in power, as it has been a champion of its principles in the long years of adversity and defeat.

THE NEWS—It will contain the current news of the day from all quarters of the world by mail and telegraph, carefully condensed and edited, including full reports of Congressional and Legislative proceedings, with special dispatches and correspondence from Washington, Harrisburg and other points of interest.

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We offer the following list of Premiums, to take effect January 1, 1878, and to continue in force until April 1, 1878:

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For Every Club of 20—A Copy of THE DAILY POST FOR SIX MONTHS, POSTAGE PREPAID, to getter-up of Club.

For Every Club of 10—One Copy of THE WEEKLY POST FREE, to getter-up of Club; and, lastly,

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F. A. SHOEMAKER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Ebensburg, Pa. Office on High street, east end of residence. [1-21,'76-tf.]

1877. THE 1878.

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GEO. M. READE, *Attorney-at-Law*, Ebensburg, Pa. Office on Centre street, three doors from High street. [1-26,'76.]

A REMEDY FOR DIPHTHERIA AND THROAT DISEASES.—A few years ago when diphtheria was raging in England, a gentleman accompanied the celebrated Dr. Field on his rounds to witness the so called "wonderful cures" which he performed, while the patients of others were dropping on all sides. The remedy, to be so rapid, must be simple. All he took with him was powder of sulphur and a quill, and with these he cured *every* patient without exception. He put a teaspoonful of flour of brimstone into a wineglass of water, and stirred it with his finger, instead of a spoon, as the sulphur does not readily amalgate with water. When the sulphur was well mixed he gave it as a gargle, and in ten minutes the patient was out of danger. Brimstone kills every species of fungus in man, beast, and plant in a few minutes. Instead of spitting out the gargle, he recommended the swallowing of it. In extreme cases, in which he had been called just in the nick of time, when the fungus was too nearly closing to allow the gargling, he blew the sulphur through a quill into the throat, and after the fungus had shrunk to allow of it, then the gargling. He never lost a patient from *diphtheria*. If a patient cannot gargle take a live coal, put it on a shovel and sprinkle a spoonful or two of flour 'brimstone at a time upon it, let the sufferer inhale it, holding the head over it, and the fungus will die. If plentifully used, the whole room may be filled almost to suffocation: the patient can walk about in it, inhaling the fumes, with doors and windows shut. The mode of fumigating a room with sulphur has often cured most violent attacks of *cold* in the head, chest, &c., at any time, and is recommended in cases of *consumption* and *asthma*.

WET BOOTS.—A friend writes from Europe; What an amount of discomfort wet boots entail, to be sure, and how well we all recall the fretful efforts we have now and then made to draw on a pair of hard baked ones which were put up by the fire over night to dry. Damp and adhesive within, they are without stiff and unyielding as a horn. Once on, they are a sort of modern stocks destructive of all comfort and entirely demoralizing to the temper. The following device will rob the wet barn-yard of a cloudy winter or spring evening of half its promise of discomfort for the next morning: When the boots are taken off fill them quite full with dry oats. This grain has a great fondness for damp, and will rapidly absorb the last vestige of it from the leather. As it takes up the moisture it swells and fills the boot with a tightly fitting last, keeping its form good and drying the leather without hardening it. In the morning shake out the oats and hang them in a bag near the fire to dry, ready for the next wet night, draw on the boots, and go happy about the day's work.

THE DISEASES OF FARM STOCK.—The new Commissioner of Agriculture appears to be trying to make himself generally useful in his Department. He has recently issued a circular asking for information from all parts of the United States in regard to the causes of diseases prevailing in all classes of farm stock. He thinks that by proper investigation into these diseases and their causes, timely remedies and preventives may be discovered that will save many millions of dollars annually to the farmers of this country. He therefore asks for information in regard to such facts as may be known about the disease of horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, requesting that a complete diagnosis of the disease be sent him, stating the duration of the attack, its average fatality, what remedies, if any, are used and with what success. This information will be laid before Congress as the basis for securing an appropriation to meet the expenses of a thorough investigation of diseases of all classes of farm animals.

THE following is a recipe for making hard soap which is excellent and economical: Nearly every family accumulates through the winter plenty of drippings from beef and mutton. These can be utilized for the purpose by boiling in water, allowing it to cool, and then removing from the water and boiling till all the water is expelled. Of course the whiter the grease the nicer the soap. Take 6 pounds of sal soda, six pounds of grease, three and a half pounds of stone lime, four gallons soft water and 1 pound of borax. Put soda, lime and water into an iron boiler; boil until dissolved. When well settled, pour off the clear lye, wash out the boiler and put into a tub to cool and when sufficiently hard cut into bars and dry on boards to dry. This is very nice for washing white flannel and calicoes.

TO DESTROY INSECTS.—The following recipe, which we find in the *Journal of Chemistry*, for the destruction of insects, which, if it be one half as efficacious as it is claimed to be will prove invaluable: Hot slum water. It will destroy red and black cockroaches, chinch bugs, and all crawling pests which infest our houses. Take two pounds of slum, and dissolve it in three or four quarts of boiling water; let it stand on the fire and the slum disappears; then apply with a brush, while nearly boiling, to every joint and crevice in the closets, bedsteads, pantry shelves and the like. Brush crevices in the floor of the skirting, or mob beads, if you suspect they harbor vermin.

TO PURIFY RANCID OIL.—Heat to a little calcined magnesia and it will be restored to original purity.